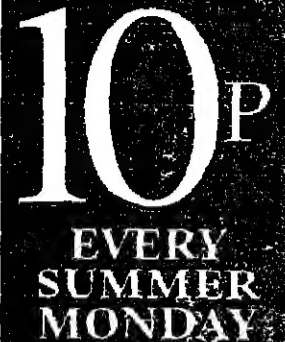
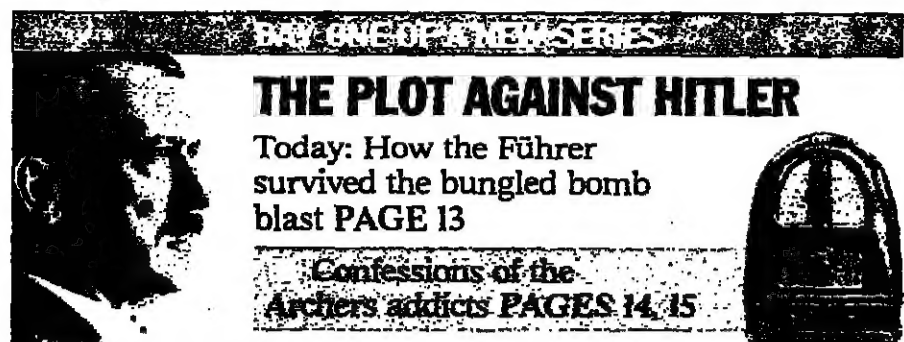


THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

WIMBLEDON 1996

Richard Krajicek beats the rain to take singles title PAGES 23, 25-27
Go for Gold in Atlanta: win a trip for two to the Olympics Details and Token One, PAGE 34



Commons must rule, says Redwood

Tories urge battle over 48-hour week

By IAN MURRAY, CHARLES BREMNER AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

TORY MPs are to try to force the Prime Minister into a head-on confrontation with Brussels over a ruling by the European Court imposing a maximum 48-hour week on British workers.

Although the judgment is not likely to be issued by the court until September, the Euro-sceptics intend to exploit the issue this week.

The MPs plan to keep Mr Major to the promise he made in the Commons last week that he would block any progress at the Maastricht review conference unless Britain was allowed to retain its opt-out from the 48-hour working week.

The Government has been warned that it would be breaking the law and liable to heavy claims for damages in the British courts if it defies the directive.

"We have got to sort out who is top dog, Parliament or an unelected group of lawyers sitting in Luxembourg," John Redwood, the former Cabinet minister and leadership challenger, said last night. "We have got to change the law to assert Parliament's will above the European Court."

"We signed the Maastricht treaty, including the opt-out clause, in good faith. When you get a decision from the court which is totally incompatible with something the British Parliament has ap-



Redwood: law must be changed, not broken

proved, then you have to establish which of the two is the senior authority."

Mr Redwood said he did not agree that Britain should disobey the court or re-implement a policy of non-cooperation in an attempt to force the EU to amend the treaties.

"Germany already has a constitution which makes European law subject to its own national law. All I want to see is a British version of what the Germans have already."

The directive comes into force in November and from then on will be binding on all public sector employees, including those working for the Government. If Parliament does not incorporate the directive into British legislation, any private employee made to

work longer than 48 hours could sue the Government for damages on the grounds that it had deliberately failed to implement EU law.

Doctors, emergency services and transport workers are among the few who would be exempt. Workers would be allowed to work longer than 48 hours a week if they volunteered to do so.

The likelihood is that this will create two scales of overtime payment, with lower rates for time between a normal 40-hour working week and 48 hours and a higher rate for hours in excess of the EU maximum.

Nicholas Budgen, MP for Wolverhampton South West, who is also a Euro-sceptic, said he believed the best strategy would be to re-introduce the policy of non-cooperation used in the BSE crisis.

"We can only solve this by an amendment to the Maastricht treaty," he said. "We must comply with the court. We cannot pick and choose which bits of community legislation we accept, as that would undermine our position as a law-abiding member. Breaking European law would have very big consequences, so we have to do this by changing the law."

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, rejected demands for a renewed campaign of non-cooperation.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Loyalist protesters block Ulster roads

By NICHOLAS WATTS, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A CONFRONTATION between hundreds of Orangemen and armed police on the outskirts of Portadown, County Armagh, intensified last night amid fears that the protest could spread throughout Northern Ireland.

Loyalists threw stones and missiles at police lines at Drumcree to register their anger at the police decision to reroute an Orange parade away from the Nationalist Garvaghy Road area of Portadown. Violence flared after Orangemen, who have marched into Portadown along the route for 189 years, vowed to camp outside the small parish church at Drumcree until they were allowed to follow their traditional route. The Loyalists staged a similar protests last

year for three days until they were eventually allowed to March down the Garvaghy Road. The deadlock led to some of the most serious violence between Loyalists and the RUC in a decade.

The RUC mounted a massive security operation yesterday to prevent a repeat of last year's clashes. More than 2,000 police officers, supported by two battalions of soldiers on standby, were drafted into the Portadown area. Thousands of other RUC officers were put on alert throughout Northern Ireland. Helicopters hovered over Drumcree and barbed-wire fences were erected to prevent Loyalists from breaking through to the Nationalist area.

Orangemen reacted furiously to the security operation and accused the RUC of hemming them in. Harold

GrandMet bid denied by Guinness

GUINNESS, the name behind brands such as Johnnie Walker, Bells and Gordon's Gin, will make a Stock Exchange statement today, after reports that it has considered launching a takeover bid for Grand Metropolitan, whose own brands include Smirnoff Vodka, J&B Rare Whisky, Malibu and Jose Cuervo tequila.

Speculation that a £13 billion bid was being planned was increased by a leaked document prepared by Lazard, which acts as chief City adviser to Guinness.

Although Guinness denied last night that it would make a hostile bid for GrandMet, analysts do not rule out an attempt to forge an agreement between the two companies to combine their interests in spirits.

Continued in col 4, page 2



Krajicek with the singles champion's trophy

Three set win for unseeded Krajicek

By JOANNA BAILE

HOLLAND'S Richard Krajicek created a Wimbledon first yesterday by beating the American Malvivi Washington in the first men's final to feature two unseeded players.

The big-serving, 6ft 5in Dutchman won in straight sets 6-3, 6-4, 6-3 after rain disrupted play three times. Washington was the first black men's finalist since Arthur Ashe beat Jimmy Connors 21 years ago.

The event saw another first — a woman streaker who ran across Centre Court towards the Royal Box as Krajicek and Washington were warming up before the match. Melissa Johnson, a 23-year-old student, was taken to Wimbledon police station, but was released without charge.

Krajicek's victory was watched by his mother and Dutch TV presenter girlfriend, Daphne Deckers. She said: "He's never played so well. He looks so calm like an ice man but I know inside he feels like a tornado. It is a dream made in heaven. I gave him an extra special big kiss this morning," Miss Deckers said.

Until yesterday, Krajicek's career had been plagued by injury and psychological problems.

Wimbledon reports, pages 23, 25-27



Daphne Deckers, Richard Krajicek's girlfriend, watching him yesterday

Mosquitoes could be flying hypodermics against malaria

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A NEW breed of mosquito could be designed to act as a "flying hypodermic syringe" to prevent malaria, the disease they normally spread.

The genetically-engineered mosquito would transfer a protein through its saliva, which would act as a vaccine, immunising its victim against the disease, which claims more than two million lives a year.

A patent on the idea has been granted to Professor Bob Sinden of Imperial College, London, and Profes-

sor Julian Crampton of Liverpool University. The scheme could be used to immunise people and animals against a wide range of diseases, and any biting insect, not only mosquitoes, could be used to carry the vaccine.

"We are exceedingly excited by the research," Prof Sinden said. "It's eminently logical, and we are confident we can make it work."

The technique described in the patent application has not been published but was spotted by Derwent, a scientific information company. The trick is to modify the insect's salivary gland by introducing a foreign

gene. When blood-sucking insects bite, their salivary glands produce chemicals that encourage their victims' blood to flow. This action is under the control of a gene that is switched on by a control region, a section of DNA lying near the gene.

"We steal this control region and attach it to a gene that produces an antigen known to stimulate the body to resist the parasite," Prof Sinden said. The modified gene can be put back into the insect using a variety of well-established techniques. The result should be an insect which keeps on "topping-up" the immune system of

those it bites, so that an antigen that would not necessarily be effective as a single vaccination provides good long-term protection.

There is no intention of releasing any such creatures until all the implications have been carefully studied, and exhaustive tests carried out in the laboratory, Prof Sinden said.

Professor Crampton said that the gene had been successfully introduced and that it produced antigen in sufficient amounts. Trials using mice would be used to establish that bites from the modified mosquitoes were enough to produce immunity.

Oxford boosts 261 academics to more senior titles

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

OXFORD University has almost doubled its number of professors, appointing more in a single day than in the past decade, in an unprecedented attempt to raise the status of its dons.

The exercise is to be repeated annually, although the number of promotions will be much smaller in future.

Dr Paul Slack, the chairman of Oxford's General Board, said: "The purpose of this exercise was to give appropriate recognition to the outstanding quality of the academics in this university, despite the financial pressures which prevent us from increasing the number of stipendiary professors."

The university's response to the growth in the number of professorships elsewhere was the subject of heated debate. Some existing professors felt that their title would be devalued by a wave of appointments, while some of those aspiring to the title wanted the full benefits of a professorship. As well as attracting a higher salary, the stipendiary grade brings a reduction in teaching duties to give the holder more time for research.

In its early stages, the debate was sidetracked into a controversy over opportunities for women at Oxford. A proposal to create 15 full professorships was rejected by Congregation, the dons' parliament, because the shortage of women in senior positions was thought to guarantee that most of those promoted would be men.

The much larger list of titular appointments appears to have benefited female academics, 85 per cent of whom were successful in applications for readerships or professorships, compared with 79 per cent of men. The number of women professors will more than double, from 12 to 20.

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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

PUTTING HITLER'S DEATH
Part two of the new series of the TV series 'The Holocaust'.

WEDNESDAY

FASHION

The British duo who are the stars of style.

PLUS: Win a PC and tickets to see the spectacular Twister.

THURSDAY

FILMS

Jim Carrey, the \$20 million star of The Cable Guy.

PLUS: Best holiday bargains in Travel News.

FRIDAY

POP

Caitlin Moran on modern music and musicians.

PLUS: The Valerie Grove interview.

SATURDAY

WIN THE TIMES TOP 100 WINES

£850 worth of wines to be won.

PLUS: Weekend, Car 96, Weekend Money, 1015 for young Times readers and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide.

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK: COLLECT TOKENS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A TRIP TO THE OLYMPICS.

Blair avoids row over MPs' elections

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR has backed away from a confrontation with his MPs over a proposal to scrap this year's elections to the Shadow Cabinet.

Labour's leadership is expecting in-fighting after more than 100 backbenchers criticised suggestions by senior figures that the annual elections to the front bench be cancelled. Backbenchers are alarmed at the prospect of this year's poll being abandoned and Mr Blair has agreed to accept their decision when they force a vote on the issue next week.

Andrew Mackinlay, the Labour MP for Thurrock, disclosed that 110 of the 175

backbenchers had supported his call for the elections to go ahead. "There were strong reasons for believing there were some important people in the party who were trying to prevent the elections," he said.

However, John Reid, a frontbench MP, is expected to press next week's meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party to vote that the election should be cancelled. "Our sole aim should be the defeat of the Conservatives, not the defeat of Shadow Cabinet members," Mr Blair's aides were adamant that the leader was not behind Mr Reid's move.

Although Mr Blair was

Tony Blair faced further embarrassment over education yesterday as his son's school said it could be forced out of the state system under a Labour government. Mr Blair's eldest son, Euan, attends the grant-maintained London Oratory in Fulham, southwest London. Labour would force grant-maintained schools to agree admissions policies with the local authority. John McIntosh, London Oratory's headmaster, said the plans threatened his school's character.

described by aides as being "totally relaxed" about the issue, senior colleagues gave warning that the elections were likely to pose damaging problems for the leadership in the run-up to the general election.

They remain nervous about the prospect of a highly publicised battle which could

lead to at least two senior MPs, Harriet Harman, Shadow Health Secretary, and Jack Straw, Shadow Home Secretary, being ousted from the Shadow Cabinet.

One Shadow Cabinet minister said: "If Tony thinks this election is just going through the motions, he will have a shock. There are people look-

ing for a scalp, not just a token."

Another Shadow Cabinet member said Mr Blair had been "chastened" by the hostility of backbench MPs to his decision that there be a referendum on the future of Scotland. "He is not in the mood for a fight over an issue that doesn't bother him too much."

But Labour MPs are divided over the wisdom of holding a poll that could see left-wing MPs seek to force out Mr Harman over her decision to send her son to a selective school.

This Wednesday, several frontbench Labour MPs are expected to ignore Mr Blair's appeal for restraint over MPs' pay when the Commons votes

on the matter. The Labour leader last week in calling for MPs and ministers to be restricted to a 3 per cent pay rise rather than the increase of at least 26 per cent recommended by an independent body.

Three Shadow Cabinet members indicated yesterday that they would support the full increases, claiming that MPs deserved to catch up, after falling behind comparable professions.

Mr Blair is allowing his MPs a free vote: the Government is demanding that ministers and their aides back the 3 per cent.

Peter Riddell, page 18

Mayhew to stand down at general election

By JAMES LANDALE

SIR PATRICK MAYHEW, the Northern Ireland Secretary, is to stand down from Parliament at the general election. He ended months of speculation about his future by making the announcement to a meeting of his constituency officers in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, at the weekend.

However, it is unlikely that Sir Patrick will resign from the Cabinet before the election. Earlier this year he said it was his duty to serve until the end of the Government's term.

Sir Patrick has represented his constituency for 22 years and will hand on a majority of 17,132. His retirement will prompt a rush of applications for what is one of the safest seats in the country. Possible successors could include Chris Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong, who is expected to return to British politics when the colony returns to Chinese rule next year.

At 66, Sir Patrick is one of the Prime Minister's oldest and most experienced Cabinet colleagues. He has been a driving force in the peace process. But he has recently shown signs of fatigue.

Mr Major is keen to maintain some continuity in Belfast and Sir Patrick's deputy at the Northern Ireland Office, Michael Ancram, is one of the frontrunners to succeed him.



Police confront Orangemen on the Drumcree Road, barring their way through a Catholic area of Portadown

March protests block Ulster roads

Continued from page 1

Gracey, the District Grandmaster of the Orange order in Portadown said: "There is a ring of steel round Portadown. So it is now the siege of Portadown. In fact it is even wider than that. It is the siege of Ulster."

In an address to hundreds of Orangemen outside the church at Drumcree, Mr Gracey vowed to stay until the RUC allowed his local Orange order to parade along their traditional route. He

said: "If we fail in this you can rest assured we are finished. Dublin has given the order for this."

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, and MP for North Antrim, told cheering supporters that the Orangemen's protest was "worth fighting for and worth dying for".

Security sources voiced fears that the Loyalists from the mid-Ulster brigade of the Loyalist Volunteer Force might try to provoke further violence.

The Orange protest spread beyond Drumcree last night when hundreds of Loyalists closed roads throughout Northern Ireland. The main M1 motorway was closed 20 miles West of Belfast when Loyalists blockaded both carriage ways at Moira, Co Antrim. Hundreds of Loyalists also closed off roads into Newtownards, Co Down, and Maghera, Co Londonderry.

The main Belfast-to-Dublin road was blocked for a time at Drogheda, Co Down.

One school in ten 'plans sackings'

One school in ten is planning to sack teachers this summer in a wave of redundancies that could claim 4,000 jobs, the Association of Teachers and Lecturers says today. The association said the teachers most likely to lose their jobs were the most experienced.

The Department for Education and Employment said that similar predictions in previous years had proved to be exaggerated. Schools must issue formal notices of redundancy at this time of year to meet contractual obligations, whether or not the job was certain to be lost, a spokesman said.

Kerb crawlers

Residents in areas plagued by prostitution want convicted kerb crawlers to be shamed by publication of their names in local newspapers, a cross-parliamentary group on prostitution reports. It suggests that if kerb crawling became a traffic offence, those convicted could have their licences endorsed.

Pilots' strike

British Airways pilots' leaders have said that company plans to keep their planes in the air when flight crews go on strike would fail. The British Airline Pilots Association said: "Before a foreign pilot could fly a BA aircraft they would have to be assessed by a BA training captain, the vast majority of whom are BAPLA members."

Tube strike

Commuters face more travel problems today when 2,000 London Underground drivers stage their third strike in support of a shorter working week in spite of an invitation to peace talks. The drivers' union Aslef said it was still evaluating the invitation from the conciliation service Acas, which was quickly accepted by London Transport.

Irish crime fear

Nine out of ten Irish people believe the Dublin Government is losing the battle against crime, according to a poll published yesterday. 11 days after the gangland murder of the journalist Veronica Guerin. The poll in the *Sunday Independent* newspaper found 65 per cent did not believe her killers would be brought to justice.

Wind-up winner

A clockwork radio has beaten off competition from a drinks can crusher and the nose of the Eurostar train to win top prize in the 1996 BBC Design Awards. The Freeplay wind-up radio, which uses no electricity or batteries, was developed by its inventor Trevor Baylis and designer Andy Davey for use in Third World countries.

999 overload

A huge increase in the number of 999 calls from mobile telephones is threatening to undermine the emergency services. Police say that the calls often duplicate the same incident, increasing the time it takes to respond to emergencies. A new number to deal with trivial incidents, including cats stuck in trees, is being proposed.

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Princess turns to Duchess for advice

By CAROL MIDGLEY

THE Princess of Wales sought advice from the Duchess of York yesterday over the draft divorce settlement put to her by her husband.

During Sunday lunch at the Duchess's rented home on the Westwold estate in Surrey, the Princess is understood to have asked for guidance over the offer, which is believed to include a lump sum of between £10 million and £20 million. She has watched the recent divorce negotiations between the Duke and Duchess of York with interest.

Her solicitor, Anthony Julius, a partner at Mishcon de Reya, described the Duchess as "the yellow canary", a reference to the birds coal miners used to take down the pit to check for poisonous gas ahead.

According to reports yesterday, the Princess has also been receiving advice from another royal divorce, Captain Mark Phillips, the former husband of the Princess Royal. It is said to be he who urged her to be certain of the precise terms of the settlement before agreeing to start divorce proceedings, having felt he was too trusting with Buckingham Palace over his own divorce.

Clarke says voters want job security before tax cuts

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH CLARKE took his firmest stand yet against calls for tax cuts yesterday as he pointed to worsening economic forecasts that will undermine Tory hopes of a giveaway Budget.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer set out a downbeat assessment of the prospects of tax reductions as he prepares for the opening stages of a tough public spending round with Cabinet colleagues. He dismissed suggestions that tax cuts were likely and added that they were "down the scale" in the public's list of priorities.

He admitted that past forecasts of public sector borrowing had been wrong and that he would have to revise figures, reducing the opportunity for cutting tax. The Chancellor is expected tomorrow to increase the forecast for the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement from £22.5 billion to about £28 billion and next week to scale down projections of economic growth from 3 per cent to 2.5 per cent. "My huffins got their estimates wrong," he said in an interview with BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*.

Tory MPs viewed his comments with growing nervousness yesterday. One minister

said: "This is not just a Chancellor being negative before a public spending round. He actually has figures to show that things are not as good as we would have hoped at this stage."

Mr Clarke will underline his difficulties when Cabinet ministers begin their public spending round next week. Senior Treasury figures said that Mr Clarke was adamant that ministers should meet the £268 billion spending target, or even reduce it. However, he was dismissive of claims by John Redwood, the former Welsh Secretary, that up to £6 billion could be cut.

He said that job security, a buoyant housing market and higher earnings were more important to voters than tax cuts. "I am not going to do it [cut taxes] if it will drive up our borrowing or delay the real economy out there feeling good. Tax comes down the scale compared to all those things that matter to real families."

Gordon Brown, Labour's Shadow Chancellor, accused Mr Clarke of refusing to spell out the true scale of the "black hole" that had developed in public finances.

Summer forecast, page 44

Battle over 48-hour week

Continued from page 1

Non-cooperation is not going to alter the judgment of the court. One thing we made clear when we were not co-operating is that the British Government, certainly Conservative governments, obey the law."

The Chancellor echoed John Major's acknowledgement that Britain will be unable to overturn the court's decision, but backbench Tories are angered by the Government's refusal to take a more aggressive stance on the issue.

The Government's quarrel over working hours goes well beyond its anger over what it

sees as the court's habit of pursuing a federal political agenda in its rulings. In Mr Major's view, it impinges on Britain's freedom to opt out of social legislation.

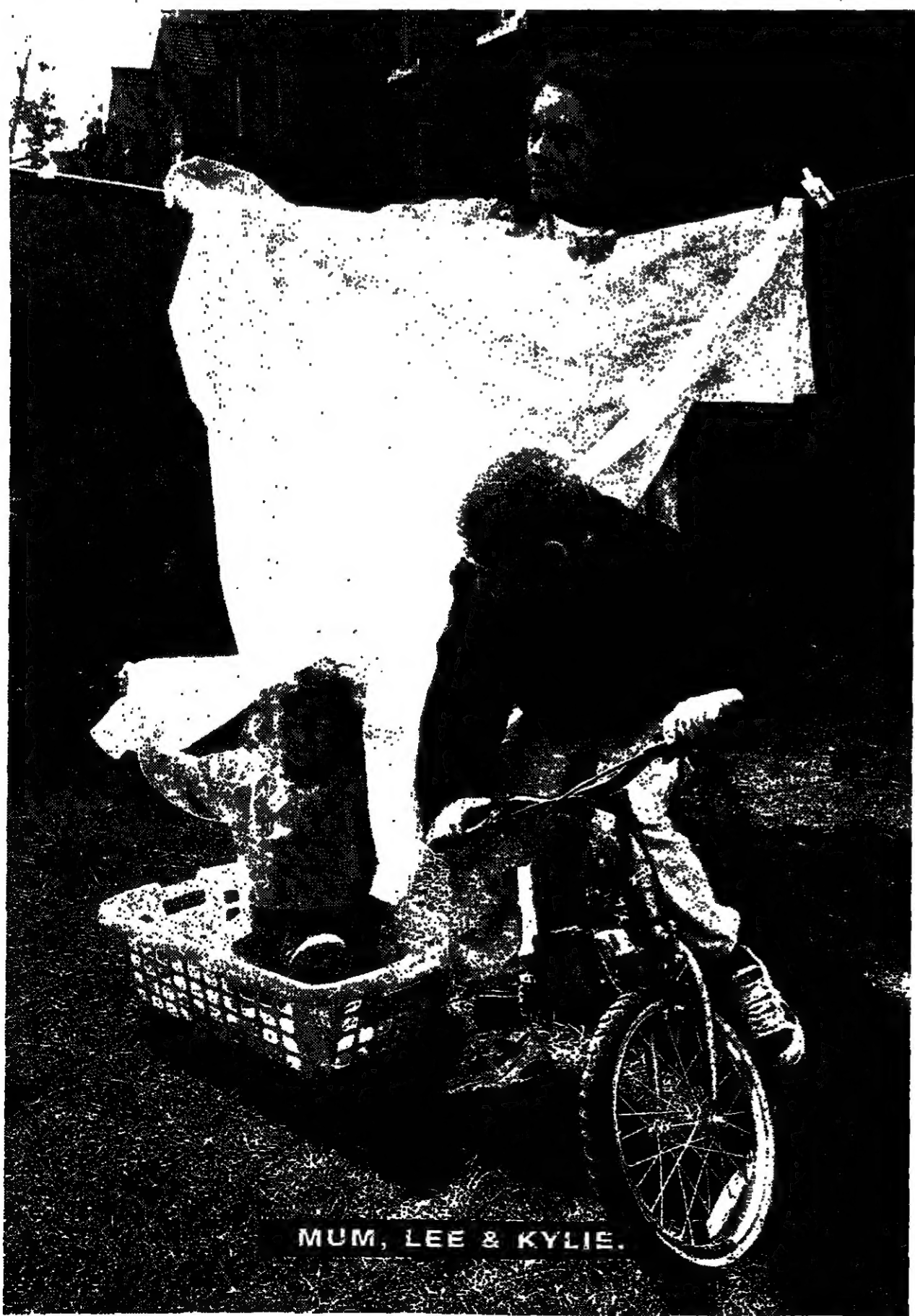
Several EU states, as well as Commission officials, have made no secret of their desire to bring Britain into line on employment law at the IGC, both for the good of British workers and to stop employers enjoying what rivals see as an unfair advantage in the form of lower wage costs.

The so-called "working time directive" was agreed in 1993, setting a maximum 48-hour week with compulsory rest

periods every six hours, a minimum daily rest period of 11 hours, one day off a week and four weeks paid annual holiday for all workers.

Had the directive been classified as an employment rather than a health and safety measure, Britain would have been unaffected because it would then have come under the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty and thus have been covered by the British opt-out.

Putting the rules into practice could cost the Treasury and industry hundreds of millions of pounds, according to British businessmen.



MUM, LEE & KYLIE.

0171-328 1228

Comments from a former Wimbledon winner helped Krajicek to overcome his mental block

Parental pressure almost drove champion to quit

By JOANNA BALE

LIKE his more famous counterparts Steffi Graf and Mary Pierce, the new Wimbledon champion, Richard Krajicek, has had a troubled relationship with his father.

The 24-year-old Dutchman was born a year after his Czech parents, Petr and Ludmila, fled their country in 1970 and settled in Rotterdam. When he was four years old his father thrust a tennis racket into his hand, embarking on a strict training regime with the sole ambition of turning his son into a star.

The methods he used to instil the discipline needed to succeed were often harsh and eventually prompted Krajicek to cut off all contact with his father when his parents divorced while he was a teenager.

Karel Huidkamp, a Dutch tennis correspondent, said: "His father would force him to practise for hours, dragging him back on to the court against his will even when he was exhausted and often in tears." Another added: "If he lost a match he would be forced to walk several miles home while his father drove. It was a method that many Eastern Europeans used."

In the early 1990s, when Krajicek's career began to take off, he decided to get back in touch with his father and the two were reconciled, although he was not present on Centre



A young Krajicek, hailed as a wunderkind by the media in Holland, with his idol, John McEnroe

Court yesterday to see his son fulfil his greatest dream.

Petr is said to be using the same strict regime to train his six-year-old daughter from his second marriage, who is said to have great promise.

Kraai (crow), as he is known, now declines to talk about his father, but he admits the regime gave him a fierce determination to win. Dominating the Dutch junior competition from the age of 11, he idolised John McEnroe and was touted as a "wunderkind" by the media. But when he began to lose matches after his parents' marriage broke down, he almost gave up tennis.

Talking about his early days as a child tennis star, he said: "Everybody wanted to know me then. It was weird. I didn't

have a clue what was going on. Then I started playing badly, losing games. My parents got divorced. And then nobody wanted to know me. I even considered giving up tennis at one point."

He decided to soldier on but admits that his game was constantly thwarted by an over-anxiety to succeed, a legacy from his father's training regime, as well as frequent injury problems. At 15, he was one of the fastest servers in the world at 134mph, he is a formidable opponent, but has had to resort to psychotherapy to fulfil his potential.

Ted Troost, who uses a mixture of psychotherapy and physiotherapy, is an important figure in Krajicek's life. He said: "Krajicek always

played against two opponents, his actual opponent and himself."

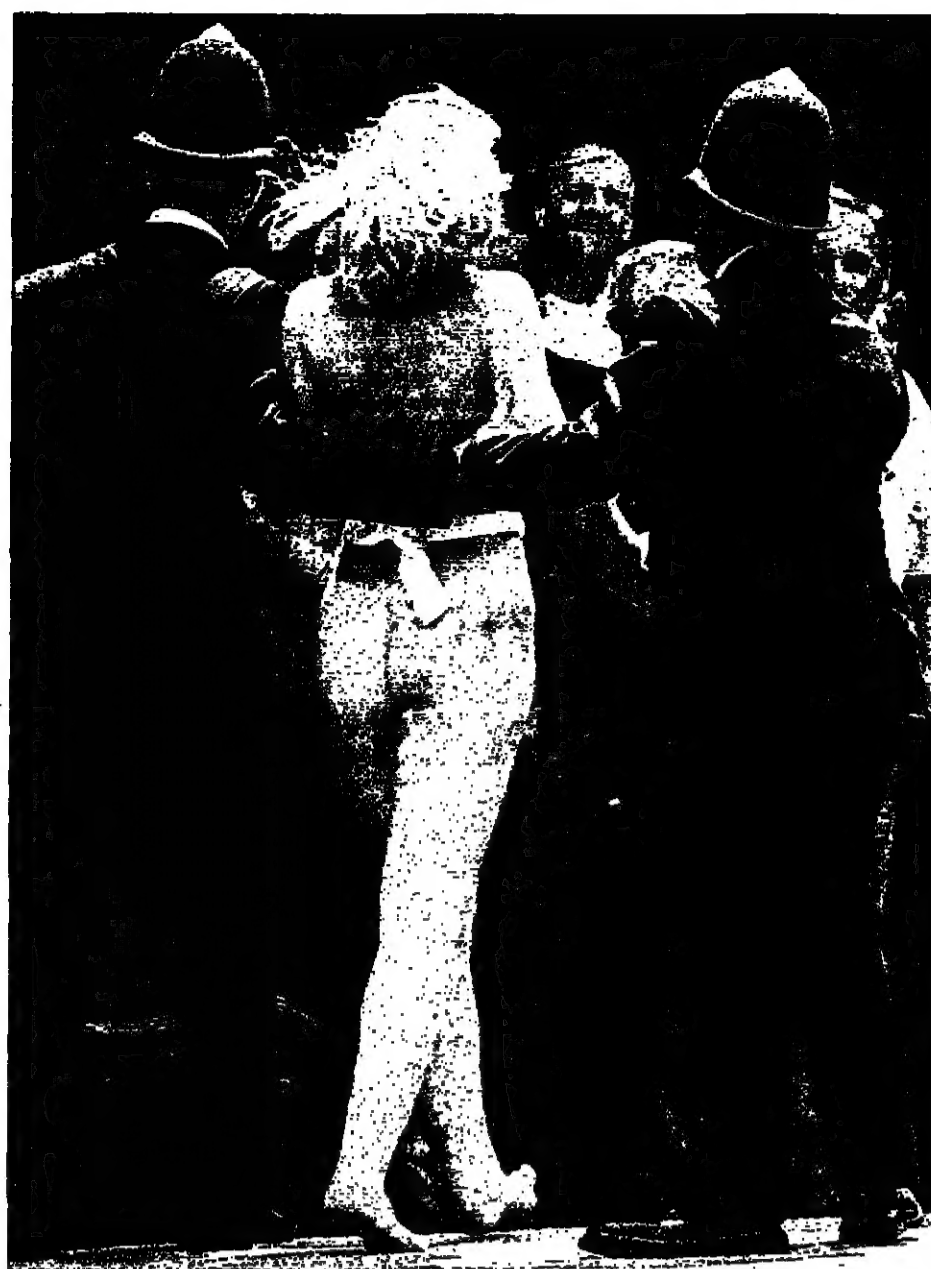
Throughout the Australian Open in January, Krajicek talked constantly about how he believed that keeping himself injury-free was a case of "mind over matter", but then dropped out of the semi-finals with a shoulder injury.

Andre Agassi remarked at the tournament that the Dutchman's problems were in his head and Krajicek admitted this week that those comments had spurred him to overcome a mental block. He said: "I changed my attitude after the Australian Open. I was so uptight about not getting injured that I was working too hard. I was putting mental pressure on myself."

Krajicek appears to have matured since causing controversy at Wimbledon in 1991 by describing the majority of women tennis players as "fat, lazy pigs who should not be allowed on show courts". He now says he regrets the remark, made on Dutch radio when responding to a question about equal prize money for both sexes.

Krajicek, ranked 13 in the world and now a multi-millionaire, enjoys reading philosophers such as Plato and studying Zen Buddhism, as well as playing golf and watching American football.

Reports, pages 23, 25, 26, 27



Melissa Johnson being led away by police after her cross-court dash yesterday



Johnson: made history

Student, 23, streaks into record book

MELISSA JOHNSON made history and brought a smile to faces on Centre Court yesterday when she became Wimbledon's first streaker.

The 23-year-old student made her dash across the hallowed turf as Richard Krajicek and Mal Washington posed for photographers. Both men smiled as the young woman flashed past them to the crowd's cheers.

Ms Johnson, who was working as a catering assistant at the tournament during her summer holidays, wore nothing but her regulation pinafore. She paused to lift the tiny garment, revealing all, in front of a packed Royal Box. The Duke of Kent rocked with laughter as she ran into the arms of police.

Ms Johnson was held at Wimbledon police station and released after the match. A Scotland Yard spokeswoman said: "There will be no further action."

Lone sailor celebrates his return to life

By LIN JENKINS

FOR a man thought to be dead, Leslie Powles was enjoying life to the full yesterday. After a full English breakfast topped by strawberries, the 70-year-old mariner recalled how he survived the past few weeks on two spoonfuls of rice and a quarter of a tin of corned beef a day.

Mr Powles stepped ashore at Lymington, Hampshire, on Saturday, seven months after losing radio contact during his three-year circumnavigation of the world. He gave up his job as a radio engineer to build a yacht in the early 1970s and embarked on his first global trip in 1975. The next time he went the other way round, becoming the first man to circumnavigate the world in both directions single-handedly.

He left on the last trip, in his 34ft sloop *Solitaire*, in September 1993. Last December he left New Zealand but failed to reach the Falkland Islands in March as expected. Storms



Powles: apologised for having caused worry

in the Southern Ocean had disabled his radio and left him injured.

"The cover over my hatch ripped open and water started flooding into the cabin. Then I was knocked unconscious and woke up about six hours later with a gash in my head and blood pouring out. I don't know how the boat stayed afloat," he said. "It is wonderful to be back here. I am sorry if anyone was worried about me."

□ Samantha Brewster, 29, will return to a heroine's welcome at Southampton tomorrow after her voyage around the world. She is the first woman and the youngest person to complete the "wrong way" solo trip.

Poetry beaten by lack of interest

By ERICA WAGNER

A MARATHON international festival of poetry and music featuring an array of writers and rock musicians at the Royal Albert Hall yesterday filled only a tenth of the seats.

Damon Albarn, of Blur, joined the American singer Patti Smith, Ray Davies of the Kinks, James Fenton, the British poet and journalist, and Miroslav Holub, one of the leading Czech poets, in what had been billed as the biggest poetry event ever staged. More than 60 artists from many countries performed their work over nine hours.

Michael Horowitz had envisaged an "Olympics of poetry" reminiscent of the celebrated gathering of beat poets he organised in 1965 which packed the Albert Hall. However, yesterday afternoon, only 500 of the 5,000 seats in the hall were filled. The audience made up for its small size by its appreciation.

Photographs, page 22

Wherever he travels, Placido Domingo is accompanied by his favourite instrument.

Such are the demands upon his time of the major Opera Houses of the world that, wherever he travels, Placido Domingo takes with him a series of green bound books. Into these he writes his engagements three years ahead.

As a singer, Placido Domingo has committed almost one hundred different operatic roles to memory.

He firmly believes this daunting repertoire is necessary to attract the widest possible



audience, so that he is able to fulfil his ambition of helping more people, all over the world, enjoy the music he loves.

He has enthralled audiences from Covent Garden to China. And one legendary curtain call in Vienna

lasted one hour and fifty minutes. "It would have been easier," he has said, "to sing the opera all over again."

However, Domingo is a highly-respected conductor as well; a challenge he appears to relish. "The operatic conductor is like a Roman charioteer. He has a hundred horses on stage and a hundred horses in the pit. And he has to control them all."

To keep up with these ever-increasing demands on his time

Placido Domingo, the Ambassador of Opera, relies on his Rolex.

"This watch is perfect for me," he says, "because, unlike me, it never needs a rest. You could say it is one of my most prized instruments."

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John East in front of the old Gem cinema, long since used as a public toilet

Curtains for old cinema

By ROBIN YOUNG

ONE of Britain's earliest purpose-built cinemas is about to be demolished, having been mistaken as a public convenience for the past 56 years.

The Gem, in Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire, was opened in 1914 to preview films made by the Neptune film company. Since Neptune went into receivership in the 1920s the building, outside Boreham Wood railway station, has served as a public convenience.

John East, a BBC radio producer whose grandfather, bearing the same name, was a director of Neptune and creator of the Gem, said yesterday: "I do feel sentimental about it because it is one of the last tangible mementoes of my grandfather's career and a source of great memories of the early cinema days."

The Gem, though small, accommodated an audience

HARBOUR LIGHTS



Written by
GEO. R. SIMS & R. PETTIT
Produced by
The NEPTUNE FILM Co.

Poster advertising one of Neptune's movies

of up to 150 on wooden benches. The Neptune films, which John East directed, scripted and performed in, were principally melodramas which included early appearances by such names as Jack Buchanan, Dame May Whitty and her husband, Ben Webster. The site of Nep-

tune's studios, across the road from the Gem, is now where the BBC films *East-Enders*, and the only remaining part of the original building is now used as a wine cellar.

Mr East said yesterday: "I do not think there is any campaign to save the Gem from demolition. They are unveiling a plaque to my grandfather on the studio site next year and I shall be going to that."

□ Hammer Films, the company which kept the nation's cinemagoers in a state of terror from the Fifties to the Seventies, is experiencing a resurrection. The company went into liquidation in 1979 but present owner Roy Skeggs, who bought out the receiver in 1987, has a dozen projects in development.

"All of a sudden we are flavour of the month," he said. "We have signed deals with Fox, New World and Warner, and we go into production this year."

Shocking role of lethal bacterium passed fit for cinema appearance

ADVERTISEMENTS warning of the dangers of toxic shock syndrome, strongly associated with tampon use, have been passed as acceptable for general viewing in the cinema. The syndrome is a rare, but frightening, disease initially thought to be confined to children, but by the late 1970s it was recognised that it was a problem found mainly in young women.

The cause was confirmed when the number of cases increased alarmingly after

the manufacturers of vaginal tampons started to use a more absorbent material. The flow was contained so effectively that toxins were readily absorbed into the system.

Toxic shock syndrome is caused by poisons released into the circulation by an infection with phage-group 1 *Staphylococcus aureus*. The patient develops a sudden high temperature — sometimes as high as 105°F (40.5°C) — with shivering. The syndrome is associated with

diarrhoea, vomiting and, once the shock develops, a very low blood pressure and circulatory collapse. The failure of the circulation leads to damage to the kidneys, liver, lungs and other organs. A widespread red skin rash is common and, as in other bacterial infections, the soles of the feet and palms of the hands become bright red and the skin on them later peels.

In 1981 the improved material was withdrawn from use in tampons and the death rate dropped dramati-



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

cally. Cases of toxic shock syndrome are still reported but not all are the result of tampon use; 15 per cent occur in males and another 15 per cent in women who are either

not menstruating or are using diaphragms, cervical caps or vaginal sponges.

It is probable that many minor instances of toxic shock syndrome pass unre-

cognised but if they are severe enough to be diagnosed the mortality rate is about 5 per cent.

Some women have been infected more than once but it is not clear whether this represents an unusual vulnerability to the toxin or whether the staphylococci were not fully eradicated from the patient and her immediate family.

In those instances in which the infection cannot be blamed on tampons or other intra-vaginal devices the

staphylococcus normally responsible for the syndrome has been recovered from nose, throat and abscesses or an infected wound. Sometimes the wound may be comparatively trivial. Toxic shock syndrome is also an occasional complication of gynaecological operations or childbirth.

Toxic shock syndrome is rare and tampons are so convenient that it is unlikely that their use will ever be abandoned, but women are advised to take certain simple

precautions. Tampons should be changed every four to six hours. Women who sleep for many hours during the night or use a pad. Hands should be washed before tampons are inserted so that any staphylococcus from the nose and throat are not transferred.

Treatment is carried out in hospital: antibiotics are administered with an intravenous infusion to maintain fluid and electrolyte balance and blood pressure.

Despair disfigures brave face of city rocked by bombers

By Bill Frost

THREE weeks after the IRA tried to tear the heart out of Manchester, some of the shops closest to the blast reopened. With balloons, bunting, brass bands and celebrity guests, the city sought to draw shoppers back to the streets devastated in the attack.

However, neither traders

nor their customers felt ready to celebrate yet.

The partial reopening of the Arndale Centre was said to be both a gesture of defiance to the bombers and a celebration of Manchester's spirit. The city fathers, who are planning a £21 million rebuilding programme, had hoped the people would come to shop —

business as usual three weeks after the attack. However, most people just stared blankly at their city's still-gaping wounds, wandering the precinct aimlessly or standing as close to the boarded-up wreckage as they could.

Yvonne Baskyfield, manageress of the K Shoes shop close to the centre of the blast, was in no doubt why some had returned to the scene of last month's outrage: the precinct held a morbid fascination for "rubber-neckers".

Her hands shook and her eyes filled with tears when she talked of the bombing. Mrs Baskyfield, 51, is seeing a psychotherapist three times a week and talking to him on the telephone every day about her overwhelming feelings of panic and her depression.

She was caught up in two previous IRA attacks on the city: "I suppose the third bombing was just too much."

As she spoke the shoppers browsed, not really interested in the shoes on display, but looking for evidence of damage. Mrs Baskyfield seemed unaware of their presence. "You just keep thinking, 'What if? I had half-a-dozen staff to look after. Suppose I had taken them the wrong way?' She feared that months, if not years would elapse before the collective memory of the bombing was laid to rest.

On the floor above, Matthew Lenton, manager of the

Burton Menswear store, was more bullish. However, his smile seemed a little fixed when he spoke of returning public confidence. "All my staff have had counselling," he said. "It was the same team called in after Dunblane, so we had the very best."

On Corporation Street, where the IRA left its one-ton bomb, passers-by stopped to watch enormous cranes lifting huge blocks of concrete and

rubble from shattered storefronts. The Corn Exchange was literally gutted in the explosion. Some of the 300 or so traders and stallholders who occupied this once magnificent building gathered forlornly at the crowd control barriers. Many had lost everything and were not covered by insurance. They have no stock left and cannot work or pay household bills.

Sue Blythe opened a sandwich bar at the Exchange six months ago, using every penny of her husband's £35,000 redundancy to buy the business. Her face was pale.

"I'm worried sick. I'm not sleeping. Our life's work has quite literally gone up in smoke," she said. "We had no business or loss-of-earnings insurance." The most she can hope for is compensation for damaged or destroyed equipment in the sandwich bar — £8,000 at the very most.

Listening to her mother talk

of the family's impending ruin at the hands of the bombers, Mrs Blythe's 11-year-old daughter Samantha, who was working with her mother on the morning of the blast, started to sob. "They are tears of rage, we think she has got over the shock. Samantha just can't bear what has happened to us and all the others in the Exchange," her mother said.

Cheek by jowl with the Corn Exchange, Manchester Cathedral took less of the blast but bears some scars. The clock on the tower stopped, fissures appeared in the roof and stained glass windows bulged and shattered.

The Very Rev Ken Riley, Dean of the Cathedral, showed the damage to Mary Robinson, the Irish President, when she visited the city over the weekend to express her country's condolences. As they posed for the cameras, she said she was impressed by "the very positive spirit"

shown since the bombing. After she left, the Dean spoke of his fears and concern for those who had lost everything. He agreed that the city still had a "wounded feeling".

"Some are a long way from being healed, particularly in the business community. The Church's job is to try to keep hope alive, if possible. It is going to be a very long time before some get back on their feet again. This talk of optimism for the future is insensitive when there are still so many in pain."

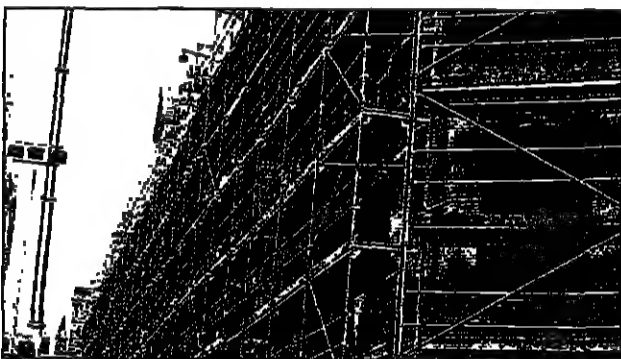
The Dean described the city fathers and developers involved in the rebuilding plan as "great movers and shakers, second to none". Talk of a swift return to normal life was premature, though. "There's a great deal of bravado coming across at the moment, but I think everyone should remember Manchester is still in deep shock. We coped the lot this time."



Yvonne Baskyfield, shop manageress, is receiving counselling three times a week. It was her third bombing



Sue Blythe, with her daughter Samantha, lost the family's sandwich bar in the Corn Exchange, below



DAD & LEE.

Former minister heads seal protest

By James Landale

ALAN CLARK, the former Tory minister, is spearheading a campaign to prevent the Government scrapping a law that curbs the trade in seal skins.

Mr Clark, a former Defence Minister, said it was monstrous that ministers were planning to make it easier for Canada, the main trader, to export seal skins to Britain.

The Government wants to repeal a regulation that forces traders to label their products clearly to show whether they are made of sealskin and from which country they come. Ministers hope to push the move through just before the summer recess, when few MPs are in Westminster.

The Trades Descriptions (Sealskin Goods) (Information) Order 1980 prompted a huge drop in sealskin imports after public distaste at television pictures of seal cubs being clubbed to death in Canada. A MORI poll this weekend found that 92 per cent of people support retaining the law.

Trade officials claim the move is prompted by the Government's deregulation drive to cut red tape. They say the law is defunct because there is little sealskin trade in the UK. However, they emphasised the matter was still subject to consultation.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare wrote to John Taylor, the Junior Trade Minister, last week, arguing that if the order were repealed sealskin products would flood into Britain.

Alzheimer's woman wins right to NHS care

By Dominic Kennedy

A PATIENT dying from Alzheimer's disease has won the right to be looked after in a health-service hospital instead of having to sell her home to pay for care.

Kathleen Richardson, 76, has been a patient at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, for 18 months. The Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust wanted to discharge her into long-term care, for which social services would have required her to sell her house to pay the £16,000-a-year fees.

Her daughter-in-law, Valerie Richardson, 50, a businesswoman and founder of the care-rights group Health Aid, argued that Mrs Richardson should be treated on the NHS because she was terminally ill. The trust has relented and agreed to let her stay.

Valerie Richardson said: "This is a landmark which will affect tens of thousands of people, perhaps hundreds of thousands, throughout the country. They don't have to sell their homes to pay for their care."

"My mother-in-law has now been given a long-term healthcare plan as an inpatient. Earlier in the year she was told she could be discharged. The whole battle has been about trying to force her out of a health service bed into welfare provision."

"Three years ago you would never have found Alzheimer's patients being discharged into residential care homes but they have done it to save money because they are £5,000 a year cheaper."

Health Aid advises families of patients how to make the health service pay for care.

Winchester and Eastleigh NHS Trust declined to comment. It is likely to be sensitive to such cases after the health service ombudsman last week rebuked Winchester Health Authority for moving a 95-year-old man from hospital to long-term care against a consultant's advice.

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MP demands investigation into 30-year lease

Government pays £1m a year for empty offices

By IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is paying nearly £1 million a year in rent for an empty 17-storey office block that it does not want, cannot use and has been unable to sub-let. It will have to go on paying the money until 2009 unless it can find some way of escaping from a 30-year lease agreed in 1979.

The asbestos-clad tower was built for London Transport (LT) in 1971 above Archway tube station in north London. In 1978 LT let it on a 150-year lease to Hambros, who sub-let it to the Department of Social Security.

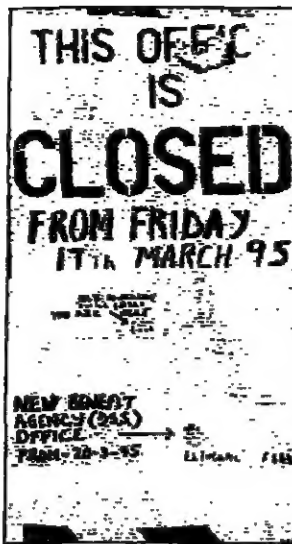
Hambros later transferred the long-term lease, which runs until 2122, to a Mr Patel and a Mr Shah, who are now paid the fixed £913,400 annual rent by the Property Advisers to the Civil Estate (Pace), the government agency that manages public buildings.

The building was originally used as clerical offices and benefits payment bureaux for the Department of Social Security.

However, the Government's decentralisation policy, introduced in the 1980s, shifted clerical work to Glasgow, Belfast and Wigan. The two benefits-payment bureaux, which occupied two floors of the building, were moved to smaller local offices last March, leaving the tower empty. The rent, however, still has to be paid.

Jeremy Corbyn, Labour MP for Islington North, the constituency in which the tower stands, is calling for an investigation by the Public Spending Committee into why the department took out the 30-year lease. "It is mind boggling," he said yesterday. "We need to know why such a long-term lease was taken out when it could probably have bought the entire building for a lot less."

"As it is the taxpayer is saddled with finding nearly £13 million to pay rent for a totally useless building. My constituents would like to see



The tower has stood empty for 15 months

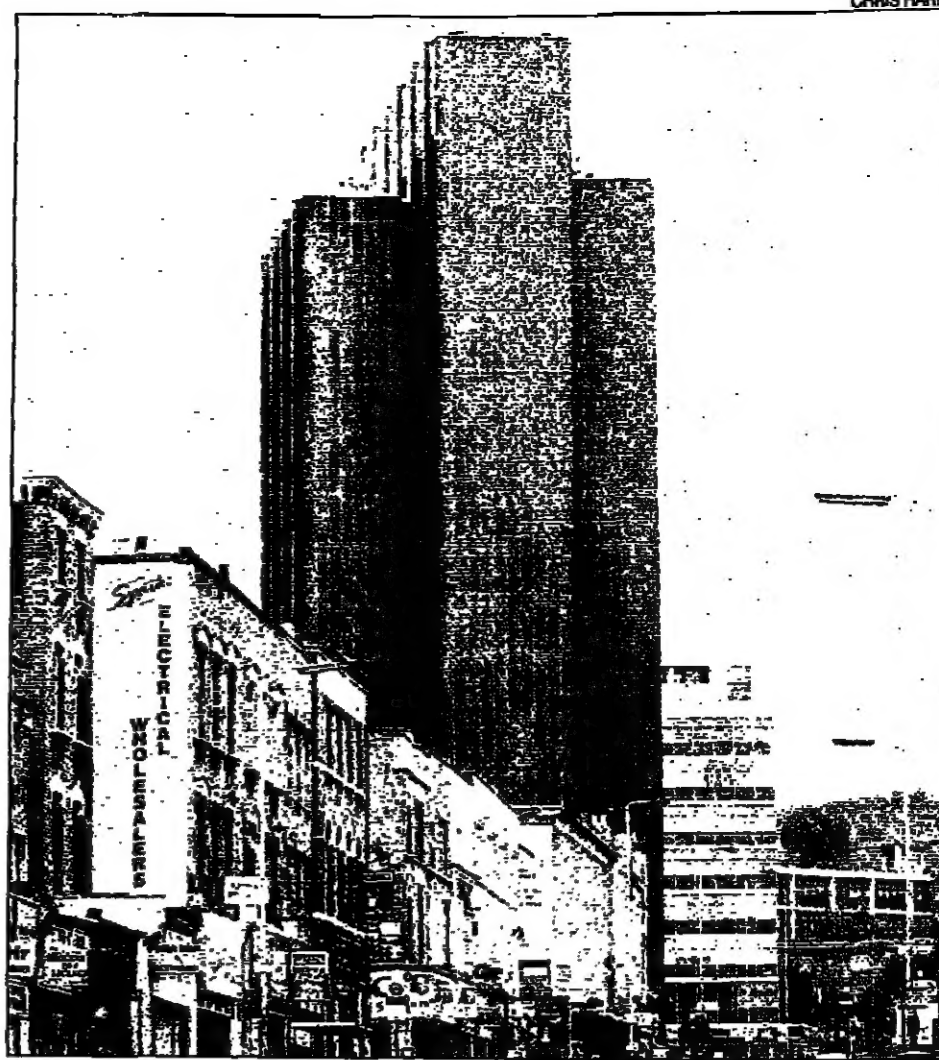
it pulled down because it is so ugly and useless. It just stands there as a monument to incompetence.

"Even when it was in use by the DSS it was totally unsuit-

able. The benefits offices were miles away from the area they served. People used to throw furniture through the windows in frustration while they were waiting. It is full of asbestos and it can't be properly cleaned. It costs £1 million a year that ought to be going to people on benefits."

A Cabinet Office spokeswoman said that Pace was trying to market the building and it might be converted into flats. "The trouble is that it is in need of major refurbishment and that will cost so much that it might be cheaper to go on paying the rent. This kind of problem is not unique and affects the private sector as well as the Government. There are just more offices than the country needs."

Islington Council would also like to see the tower pulled down. "It is a complete blockage on the comprehensive development of the area," a spokesman said. "It's a wasted resource, a blight on the area and the community doesn't like it."



The block in Archway, north London, which residents want to see pulled down

NEWS IN BRIEF

Crossword finalist through in 7¾ minutes

The Birmingham regional final of *The Times* Aberlour crossword competition was won by Peter Biddlecombe, 36, a computer programmer from Hyde Heath, Buckinghamshire, who solved the four puzzles in an average time of 7¾ minutes. The runner-up was Michael Clarke, 46; third was Jack Robertson, 54; the doubles title went to Paul Collocott and Andrew Bull, aged 39 and 23, in an average time of 12¾ minutes.

Crossword, page 22

Zoo's charity day

A zoo owner on the Isle of Wight who refused entry to a group of mentally disabled people because he said they would frighten his animals is to hold a fund-raising day for Mencap. The charity had criticised Jack Corney but praised his gesture yesterday.

Hang-glider hurt

A man was taken to hospital with suspected spinal injuries after two hang-gliders collided over Combe Gibbet, near Hungerford, Berkshire. Police said his condition was not life-threatening. Another person was treated at the scene.

US sailor rescued

A coastguard helicopter flew 205 miles from Sumburgh to airlift a sailor with internal bleeding on the *USS Loyal*, near the Arctic circle. The four-man crew was scrambled on Saturday afternoon after an SOS relayed by the US Coast Guard in Virginia.

Victim named

A two-year-old girl killed when a car ran across a pavement and into a shop was named as Jennifer Edgar, Jennifer, of Thirsk, North Yorkshire, was walking with her mother and two young brothers in the town centre on Friday.

Gas getaway

British Gas is offering prizes of weekends in Europe to try to cut the millions of unread meters. Four in ten bills are currently estimated. All customers who allow meter readers into their homes or read them themselves will be entered into the draw.

Village gossip

Villagers in Sharow, North Yorkshire, are trying to find out who cost the village hall fund £475 in a telephone call to a chatline lasting 20 hours and 20 minutes. The committee had already decided calls must be curtailed after its last bill of £45.

Five-year project to seek cause of asthma

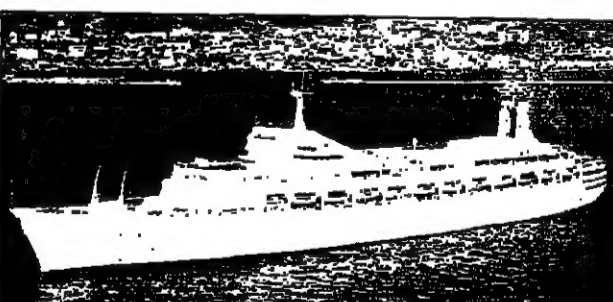
By ANDREW PIERCE

A NATIONAL five-year, £5 million research programme to try to identify the cause of asthma will be announced today by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, in a speech at Southampton University.

The news comes as ministers are considering upgrading the significance of asthma, which affects about three million in Britain. Mr Dorrell may give asthma a specific target in the way that breast cancer and heart disease are treated.

Figures published by the *British Medical Journal* in January showed that cases of asthma had doubled in school-children in five years. One child suffering from an attack is admitted to hospital every four minutes.

Government scientists, working with the Medical Research Council, will evaluate the effectiveness of treatments such as homeopathic medicines, drugs and the conventional inhaler. The study will also look at the effect of air pollution which, while a big factor in the aggravation of the disease, is not its cause, according to the Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants.



Canberra could end her days as a floating hotel

Buyers plan to keep Canberra afloat

By STEPHEN FARRELL

THE cruise liner *Canberra* looks certain to escape the scrapyard when her sailing days are over. Prospective buyers plan to use her for millennium projects in Britain or a floating hotel in Australia. P&O received several inquiries a day after announcing last month that the ship was to be withdrawn from service in September next year.

The company, which holds the rights to the name *Canberra* and will stop any buyer operating her as a potential cruise rival, declined to disclose details of interested parties or the size of their offers.

Gwyn Hughes, managing director of P&O Cruises, said

no decision had been taken about the *Canberra's* future, but it now seemed unlikely the vessel would be sold for scrap. "We have had a significant number of approaches since the announcement. Some projects have been very interesting and might involve lottery funds to convert the vessel for millennium celebrations," he said yesterday. It is our judgment that there is a very good chance something feasible will come about before the ship goes out of service."

The 44,807-tonne *Canberra* cost £17 million to build and was the largest postwar British passenger ship when launched 36 years ago.



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CHANGING TIMES

July 11th 1996

NEWS IN BRIEF

Crossword
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through in
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Britain saves EU from shameful compromise on Rushdie

Here is good news for federalists and sceptics alike. The EU's "common foreign policy" has just avoided making a monstrously silly mistake — thanks in part to the beleaguered British stubbornly insisting on the right result.

EU governments have been struggling for years to broker a truce with the Iranian Government over the inconvenient thorn in the side of trade and diplomacy, Salman Rushdie. To America's great annoyance, the Europeans have been holding what is coyly known as a "critical dialogue" with Iran. The EU state holding the



THIS WEEK
IN EUROPE

rotating presidency, currently Ireland, holds the European side of the conversation. Recently there has been a good deal more dialogue than criticism; but Iran and its proxies have gone on treating the EU

as a killing field just the same.

German police recently arrested an Iranian national suspected of involvement in the murder of Reza Maziouman, once a minister under the Shah, who was killed in Paris on May 30. Quite apart from bullets and knives aimed anywhere in the world at people who have translated or published Rushdie, the main Iranian opposition group reckons that 12 dissidents have been killed outside the borders of Iran this year alone.

Tehran has never lifted the seven-year-old fatwa against Mr Rushdie; a semi-official

Iranian foundation offers a \$2 million (£1.55 million) bounty to his killer. But the EU-Iran dialogue recently dented up a truce: Iran would confirm in writing that it had no intention of killing Rushdie or sponsoring anyone to do so. In exchange for this overwhelming act of charity, the EU would accept the "validity and irreversibility" of the original fatwa.

Now that this squalid surrender document has been torn up, almost nobody will admit to having supported such a formula. But by June 19, when the officials from the 15 EU foreign ministries who

run the critical dialogue committee met in Brussels, most governments were in favour of the deal. Only Britain frontally opposed the whole idea — France, Germany, Italy and Spain were in favour.

Under a foreign policy made by majority vote, Britain would have been overruled and the EU would have been rid of the turbulent and expensive Rushdie problem.

Remember that Britain was opposed to almost everything at that stage of the non-cooperation campaign over beef. The Iranians, sensing a

good moment to exploit Britain's isolation, dropped hints about the rewards waiting for governments ready to sign the pieces of paper. Germany could have a quarter of Iran's second five-year plan worth \$25 billion, Iran's Ambassador to Bonn claimed. He denied that Iran supported terrorism. "London has blocked the talks, just as it is now doing with BSE."

On July 1, the day Irish diplomats took over the case, the Iranian national news agency murmured sulkily that Dublin had an "ideal opportunity to improve ties with Iran based upon depoliticising the row over the

apostate author, Salman Rushdie." For "ties" read trade. Ireland already sells Iran large quantities of beef.

But by then Mr Rushdie's supporters had leaked the scheme to swap letters and Mr Rushdie had dropped in on Hans van Mierlo, the Dutch Foreign Minister, while publicising the Dutch edition of *The Moor's Last Sigh*. Mr Van Mierlo agreed that the EU should say nothing that "would seem to accept the death verdict over Rushdie."

That did the trick: the scheme went in the bin. In Brussels on July 1, the British delegate to the EU's working

group on Iran "found himself suddenly popular. Delegates fell over each other to object to unprincipled commercialism as a basis for relations with Iran."

Mr Rushdie had been asked by the Foreign Office for his view of the proposed compromise and his answer cannot be printed in a family newspaper. He did reflect wearily to a Dutch newspaper that "the EU is very bored with the issue and is desperate to get it off the agenda." Mr Rushdie's liberty to stay alive plainly requires ceaseless vigilance.

GEORGE BROCK

French corruption scandals reach Chirac party funds

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE detention last Friday of Loïc Le Floch-Prigent — the head of SNCF, France's state-owned railway — poses an embarrassing dilemma for the ruling Gaullist party, which came to power promising a clampdown on graft but which now faces a major corruption scandal within its own ranks.

The list of industrialists already under formal investigation reads like a selection from the *Who's Who* of French business: Louis Schweitzer, president of Renault, and Gilles Menage, former head of the state electricity company, for alleged involvement in government wire-tapping; Jean-Louis Beffa, head of the St Gobain group, for alleged "influence-peddling"; and dozens more.

The credibility of French business leaders received another blow in May when an international arrest warrant was issued for Serge Dassault, head of the respected aircraft-makers, by a Belgian court investigating allegations of corruption.

In La Santé prison, Paris, just a few cells from where M Le Floch-Prigent spent the weekend, languishes Jacques Crozemarie, the founder and former head of ARC, France's largest cancer research association, who is being held on suspicion of fraud over his charity's finances.

The jailed SNCF chief is suspected of abusing corporate funds, receiving stolen goods, and publishing false information and accounts to help a friend's ailing textile company when he was chairman of the oil giant, Elf-Aquitaine, from 1989 to 1993. Meanwhile, the Govern-



Chirac promised to crack down on graft

ment itself has become embroiled in a scandal, which some have described as a French Watergate, over alleged illegal funding of the Gaullist party through the Paris city housing authority when M Chirac was Mayor and head of the party. Public anger has been fed by allegations that the Government is seeking to hush up investigations and impede the work of magistrates.

"When judicial power is too long shackled, it can be hard to control when it is let loose. By attempting to control it, by treating judges and journalists with arrogance, the Government is boobying the job," *Le Journal du Dimanche* newspaper said yesterday.

The detention of M Le Floch-Prigent is particularly embarrassing for President Chirac, who personally insisted on his appointment. So far, the French Government has defended the jailed railway boss against calls for his resignation, at least partly through fear that the SNCF rescue package hammered out

by M Le Floch-Prigent will be scuppered if he goes.

M Chirac's Government can argue that many of the scandals date back to the Socialist era and that the latest wave of investigations is merely a fulfilment of its poll promise. But in recent weeks the law has turned its attention to those now in power.

A fortnight ago the public prosecutor of Paris abruptly dropped an investigation into claims that the Paris Mayor, Jean Tiberi, one of the leading lights in the Gaullist Rally for the Republic party, had allocated a luxurious apartment to his son when he was head of the city housing office.

In the last six months, three other party members have avoided prosecution, thanks to rulings by the same government-appointed judge.

Two anti-corruption magistrates have emerged as particularly tenacious sleuths. Eva Joly, the Norwegian-born investigator probing the Elf case, might have been expected to tip-toe round the investigation, particularly after she received a series of death threats. Instead, she demanded police protection and it was she who detained M Le Floch-Prigent last week.

Similarly, the magistrate Eric Halphen, when denied police co-operation in his investigation of M Tiberi, simply carried out the search of the Mayor's home on his own, unearthing a raft of documents, two handguns and £2500 worth of crisp Fr500 notes.

For French politicians and business leaders alike, this may prove to be a most uncomfortable summer.



The leading steer guiding Miura fighting bulls through central Pamplona yesterday leaps over a fallen runner during the "running of the bulls" on the first day of the week-long San Fermin festival, which attracts people to the northern Spanish city from all over the world.

Pamplona tourist gored

Among those willing to risk their lives was Robert Therwell, 25, who was gored in the groin. The South African underwent an operation, but there was no immediate information as to

his condition. The goring came a day after a man from Madrid, aged 50, died in Fuentesauro, western Spain, in a similar bull run.

Pamplona's festival was made famous by Ernest Hemingway in his 1926 novel *The Sun Also Rises*. Each morning six fighting bulls are let loose on an 825-yard dash along narrow streets from a corral to an arena.

An American runner was killed last summer, the first to die in 15 years; 13 have died this century. (Reuters)

Bonn fury as beef arrives via Italy

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE German Government yesterday demanded an in-depth investigation into how British beef is being infiltrated into other European Union states in defiance of the export ban.

Bonn was alerted by a cable from the German Ambassador in Rome, who reported that beef from herds that should have been slaughtered under the British culling programme was moving from Scotland and Ireland into France and then to Italy with forged health certificates.

According to the diplomatic cable, which has sent Germans into a new spiral of panic, live British cattle are also ending up in Italy and being reclassified as Italian. Behind it all, there is a "meat mafia". The ambassador's report says, in part: "Last Friday Italian police discovered a shipment of meat falsely described as potatoes."

A spokesman for the German Health Ministry said yesterday Bonn was demanding an immediate examina-

Coin reopens holy shroud debate

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

TWO scientists at Turin University claim to have new evidence that the shroud of Turin is not a medieval fake, but dates from the time of Christ's death.

Pier Luigi Baima Bollone, professor of forensic medicine, and Nello Balossino, professor of computer science, announced in the Catholic newspaper *Avenire* that they had detected the faint impression on the cloth of a Roman coin from the reign of Tiberius. The coin, which has been dated to AD29, was above the left eye of the elongated bearded face on the cloth, the scientists said.

The Turin newspaper *La Stampa* said it was "new proof that the shroud is authentic". *Avenire* said it was "sensational and definitive", since in AD29 Pontius Pilate was still governor of Judea.

The shroud, kept in Turin Cathedral since the 16th century, was venerated for years as the image of Christ in a winding sheet or burial shroud. In 1988, however, an

international team of experts concluded after exhaustive tests, including C14 carbon dating, that it was a medieval forgery, made between 1260 and 1390.

Avenire said the newly detected coin, or "lepton", clearly bore the letters LIS — L for year, 1 for 10 and S for six. This meant the sixteenth year of Tiberius's reign, or in modern reckoning, AD29.

"This definitely resolves the question of dating," the paper said. The report said the scientists had also made out the letters TIB and CAI, the first letters respectively of Tiberius Kaisar, or Tiberius Caesar, with an initial C instead of K for "Caesar".

Professor Balossino said he had used the latest computer techniques and had compared the coin to Palestinian coinage of the period at the British Museum. He said it was a common Hebrew practice to place coins on or near the eyes after death.

Giuseppe Ghiberti, one of the shroud's custodians, said further tests were needed.

Our man in Paris sails off to work

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MICHAEL JAY will be greeted with elaborate diplomatic ceremony and naval honours when he arrives in Portsmouth tomorrow and sets sail in HMS *Manchester*.

He will disembark four hours later in Cherbourg, travelling south to take up residence as Her Majesty's envoy in one of the grandest and costliest missions in the world — the British Embassy in Paris. His unusual arrival is partly a publicity stunt, a way of matching the journey of Sir Christopher Mallaby, his predecessor, who walked to France through the Channel tunnel while it was still under construction.

But the naval arrival has a more serious political symbolism: it comes only days before the signing of a new Anglo-French naval agreement, and five days before British airmen fly down the Champs Elysees, during the celebrations of France's national day, to mark a year's existence of the Anglo-French air group. Defence co-operation with France is unprecedented in its scope, depth and unity.

Although political business is increasingly conducted down the phone by John Major and President Chirac, Mr Jay insists an ambassador's role is still vital.

Tall, spare, precise and articulate, Mr Jay, 50, has to make the key contacts, act as the go-between for British and French bankers and industrialists, brief the French press, control the spin on British policy, and report to London at the first sign of a problem on the horizon.

More immediately, he will attempt to persuade the French that they can still do business with Britain, despite the widening chasm over Europe. It would not make sense, he insists, to try to weaken the Franco-German alliance. But his mission is like that of all British diplomats over the centuries: to keep a balance of power in Europe.



Jay: ambassador's role still vital

Man runs amok and destroys Madrid cathedral treasures

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

A MAN believed to be mentally disturbed is being held by police after running amok in Madrid's La Almudena cathedral, causing extensive damage to sacred images and parish records. Church authorities have described much of the destruction as being "irreparable".

The 40-year-old man, who was arrested after cleaners raised the alarm, confessed later that he was in search of the cathedral's chalice. "I wanted the sacred chalice, and

when I did not find it, I lost my temper," he said.

The man, who offered no resistance to police, had earlier destroyed two roseate stained-glass windows, an early 19th-century wooden statue of the Crucifixion, and an image of the Virgin from the same period, known as *Madre de Dios*. Ornaments on the crypt altar were also smashed.

Also slashed beyond repair was a collection of 12 etchings by contemporary Spanish artists, including the sculptor

Eduardo Chillida. A cathedral spokesman was unable to estimate the cost of the damage.

The trail of destruction extended to the cathedral's office, where computers were smashed and archives torn to shreds.

The man, whose name has not been released by police, also destroyed much of the large collection of religious material on video, apparently tearing many tapes out with his teeth.

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FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

Support grows for Kuwaiti Christian sentenced to die

Christian sentenced to die

BY EYE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A BUSINESSMAN, effectively sentenced to death by an Islamic court in Kuwait for converting from Islam to Christianity, said yesterday that the disclosure of his plight by *The Times* had given him hope of survival.

Robert Hussein, 45, speaking from hiding in Kuwait, said: "It has been a miracle that I have survived for so long. Now many people have come forward to offer to help me because of your exposure of the terror I have lived with. I feel wonderful today."

The newspaper reported on Saturday that Mr Hussein had been forced into hiding after the Islamic court ruled that he was guilty of apostasy, which Islamic lawyers said was punishable by death.

Mr Hussein said earlier that he had rejected offers of large sums of money from Muslims to try to persuade him to return to Islam. He had hoped as calls for action to help him spread at the weekend in Britain and America.

The growing clamour surrounding Mr Hussein also prompted criticism of the West by a Kuwaiti politician, who said the Islamic court's ruling was sound, and suggested that Mr Hussein would have to get used to it.

Britain has expressed concern over the case to Kuwait, through the British Embassy there.

Mr Hussein, once an affluent businessman but now an



Hussein: "Many people have offered to help"

outcast because of his new faith, has not seen or talked to his children for seven months. His only contact with his wife has been by telephone, he said, from the house where he is hiding. Once the general manager of a family building and trading business that had \$5 million (£3.2 million) in assets, Mr Hussein now fears reprisals and has had to move from house to house, mostly staying with Western expatriates.

In a bitter retort to the West, meanwhile, Khaleel al-Adwa, a leading Islamic politician in Kuwait, said that the country's Islamists did not want an international uproar over Mr Hussein. Mr Adwa, a fiery member of the powerful Islamic caucus in Kuwait's 50-seat elected assembly, said

Western countries could not lecture Kuwait on human rights because they did not observe such rights, the English-language *Kuwait News* reported.

"Religious courts have the jurisdiction in matters of personal status for Muslims, so the court has already decided to declare [Mr Hussein] an apostate and there is no other alternative for this conversion, which is forbidden in Islam," Mr Adwa said.

Christian pressure groups in the United States and Britain protested strongly to Kuwait's embassies in Washington and London about the ruling.

Donald Anderson, Labour MP for Swansea East, said the Kuwaitis should reverse the ruling, and urged the British Government to intervene on Mr Hussein's behalf. "If they [the Kuwaitis] have any regard for world public opinion and their image outside, they must do something about this," he told the BBC. "Clearly it is quite unacceptable that people who change their faith are persecuted in this way and they must be embarrassed into conforming with international laws."

"The Kuwaiti Government owe us and the Western allies for their very existence as a Government now, following our intervention on their behalf with our men, with our material, during the Gulf War," he said.

Two die as jet engine explodes

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

A WOMAN and her 12-year-old son died on a Delta Airways jet when one of its engines disintegrated before take-off and fragments of metal sliced through the fuselage.

The McDonnell Douglas 88 aircraft was within seconds of taking off from Pensacola, Florida, on Saturday when its port engine, on the rear of the fuselage, blew apart. Anita Saxton and her son, Nolan, who were sitting towards the rear of the plane, died almost instantly after being struck by debris.

Five others were seriously injured and several people received minor injuries during an emergency evacuation.

An "obvious hole" could be seen in the fuselage of the eight-year-old plane yesterday, said Bill Berry, a Delta official. The incident was described as a "rotor burst" or "uncontained engine failure", an occasional phenomenon with jet aircraft when an engine falls apart at speed, shooting out shrapnel.

The accident came at a time of widespread American concern about airline safety after the Valujet Everglades disaster in May, which also happened in Florida. Valujet's aircraft are now grounded.

Delta's Flight 1288, bound for Atlanta, was accelerating for takeoff when the engine failed. It stopped 500 yards down the runway.



Quinn: hospital visit after heart scare

'Zorba' star, 80, a father again

BY QUENTIN LETTS

THE American actor Anthony Quinn, 80, has become a father for the twelfth time. His former secretary, Kathy Benvin, has given birth to a 7lb 11oz boy, Ryan Quinn, in Bristol, Rhode Island.

Mr Quinn, who was last week released from hospital after a heart scare, was described as being "ecstatic" at the news. The infant was healthy and slept in his

parents' bed on the night after his birth.

Miss Benvin is the fifth woman to give the actor a child and stands to become Mrs Quinn next month once he has completed an ill-tempered divorce from his wife, Yolanda.

Mr Quinn underwent a coronary bypass operation in February 1990, but doctors said that he had a strong heart and his career would not be affected.

He won an Oscar for best

supporting actor in *Viva Zapata!*, a film made in 1952 in which he played a Mexican revolutionary, and another four years later for *Lust for Life*, in which he portrayed the French painter Paul Gauguin.

His other films include *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (1956), *Requiem for a Heavyweight* (1963), *Lawrence of Arabia* (1962), *Guns of Navarone* (1964), *Zorba the Greek* (1964) and *12 Years a Slave*.

Mandela should be pledging change, not more of the same

FROM R.W. JOHNSON
IN DURBAN

COMMENTARY

REACHING a judgment on the achievement of Nelson Mandela as he nears the halfway stage of his presidency is no easy matter.

On the one hand he enjoys an unchallengeable authority and huge popularity in South Africa — and yet he has only a limited control over affairs of government. Similarly, he enjoys enormous status internationally but has signally failed in his constant appeals for foreign investment. And while he is universally admired by his fellow South Africans, new figures show a steadily rising curve of emigration by the skilled professionals on whom the economy crucially depends.

Mr Mandela himself is fully aware of these contradictions and

of the widespread misgivings about what will happen when he hands over to his appointed successor, the Deputy President Thabo Mbeki — which is why he is now energetically trying to "sell" Mr Mbeki to British and European businessmen. In fact, Mr Mbeki is already clearly as much in charge of the Government as Mr Mandela, perhaps more — it is he who chairs the Cabinet and who attempts such policy co-ordination as exists. In the French Fourth Republic it was commonly said the President existed only to open the flower shows — *un président pour les chrysanthèmes*. Mr Mandela is rather more than that, but even he insists that he is too old (now nearly 78) to be in charge of the

Government, that he will be 81 when he steps down, and that already "rather than being an asset I'm a decoration".

If one asks investment bankers why there has been so little response to Mr Mandela's repeated pleas for foreign investment, one gets the succinct answer "policy drift". After more than two years in office the Government, paralysed by its wish to placate the trade unions and the Communist Party, still has no real economic strategy, merely a wish list.

Both Mr Mandela and Mr Mbeki have repeatedly announced their determination to privatise state industries, but nothing has been privatised. Education is in a mess and yet the Government shows no inclination to deal with the riotous students who have brought one campus after another

to a standstill. The Health Minister promises to bring forward proposals for a national health service, but has not done so. Meanwhile, the right to free care has been extended while state hospital subsidies have been cut, bringing many hospitals to the point of collapse.

The Government's centrepiece, the Reconstruction and Development Plan, has had its ministry abolished and the plan as a whole is beginning to drop from public sight. The Minister of Housing, despite promises of a massive building programme, is putting up houses at only a third of the rate that F.W. de Klerk's Government did. The Minister of Justice constantly warns that the justice system is near breakdown, while the police confess they are almost powerless to stop the massive crime wave. And so on and on.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative yesterday urged President Mandela and John Major to press Nigeria to release political prisoners and move quickly towards civilian rule (Eve-Anne Prentice writes).

The Government, which has enormous ambitions to transform and reconstruct South Africa, seems to preside ineffectually over a Wild West society it cannot control. Meanwhile, the black poor who voted the ANC into power have seen almost no real change. Many observers blame this situation on ministerial incompetence and affirmative-action appointments. In reality, the situation is somewhat more complex. Mr Mandela has subordinated all else

to the goal of national reconciliation which he so tirelessly preaches, and the ANC is also a broad church that seeks to keep together an alliance of Africanists, Communists, black businessmen, students, trade unionists, peasants and the unemployed by means of endless consultation. The result is a general squeamishness about offending pressure groups which, in turn, tends to paralyse action.

There is no doubt race relations are better than ever and that Mr Mandela's policy of national reconciliation is working remarkably well. But what Mr Mandela has conspicuously failed to do is create confidence in the future. Oddly, the two things frequently coincide: if you ask the opinion of any of the army of skilled professionals leaving the country, the chances are they would tell you they liked Mr

Mandela and applauded national reconciliation.

In that sense Mr Mandela is making a mistake by reassuring investors that the transition to Mr Mbeki will mean complete continuity. The problem is precisely that what is needed is not a continuation of the present drift but some decisive action to reconfirm national priorities and cut through various policy log jams.

Nothing Mr Mandela can say would be half as effective as, for example, announcing that the Government would make appointments on merit to help to deliver real change to the black poor, launching just one major privatisation, acting firmly to restore order on troubled campuses or sacking a few of the more obviously incompetent ministers. Of such decisions there is, sadly, as yet no sign.

Clintons clear of Whitewater 'until after the election'

BY MARTIN FLETCHER, US EDITOR

KENNETH STARR, the Whitewater special prosecutor, dealt a blow to Bob Dole's hopes of winning the White House yesterday by suggesting that he was unlikely to recommend criminal charges against either President Clinton or his wife before November's election.

Mr Starr said he planned to adhere to the Justice Department's traditional practice of taking into account the effect any charges would have on the electoral process. "That's a powerful counsel for restraint," he told *The New Yorker* magazine.

The special prosecutor's comments will delight the White House, as an indication of either the President or

First Lady has long seemed the biggest potential threat to Mr Clinton's re-election. However, the article by James Stewart, author of an acclaimed book on Whitewater, also delivered a warning that Mr Starr could snare Mr Clinton in a second term. Mr Stewart reported that Mr Starr's inquiry was "heading towards the President himself", and he had considered the politically explosive step of naming the President as an "undisclosed co-conspirator" in the recent fraud trial of Jim and Susan McDougal, Mr Clinton's former Whitewater business partners.

Mr Stewart also suggested that Mr McDougal's loyalty towards Mr Clinton was "wa-

vering" since his conviction, implying he might co-operate with Mr Starr in return for a lesser sentence. "There's no reason to do anything for the Clintons because they're not going to do a damn thing for us," said Mr McDougal.

Mr Clinton was, meanwhile, giving videotaped testimony at the White House yesterday for a second Whitewater trial now taking place in Little Rock. Mr Clinton's testimony was summarised by lawyers for two Arkansas bankers accused of illegally channelling more than \$13,000 (\$8,200 of bank funds into Mr Clinton's 1990 campaign for re-election as Governor.

This was the second time in three months that the President had suffered the indignity of being called as a defence witness. In April the McDougals summoned him to testify in their trial in a bid to discredit David Hale, the former head of a Little Rock loan company and the prosecution's chief witness. Mr Hale claimed that in 1986 Mr Clinton, as Governor, pressured him to make an "illegal" \$300,000 loan to Mrs McDougal from government-insured funds earmarked for the economically disadvantaged. Mr Clinton categorically denied the charge, but — to the President's embarrassment — the jury convicted the McDougals anyway.

The *New Yorker* article said Mr Starr's team was investigating whether Mr Clinton was part of a criminal conspiracy to obtain that loan to buy a property that would save the Whitewater Development Corporation from collapse. The article noted that the prosecutor's questioning of both the McDougals and Mr Clinton in that first trial went well beyond what was necessary to secure the McDougals' convictions.

It seemed designed to elicit information about Mr Clinton, particularly an alleged meeting at which Mr Hale claimed he, Mr Clinton and Mr McDougal agreed on the loan. Mr Clinton denied any such meeting occurred.

Hispanic picks up votes in Texas

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN GROESBECK, TEXAS

THE people in this hot, dusty town in rural east Texas are unaccustomed to any visits by candidates for the US Senate, still less the sort Victor Morales paid them.

He drove his battered white Nissan pick-up with a crumpled door and crack across his windshield. In the back was his suitcase, a picnic basket and campaign leaflets.

Groesbeck, with a population of 3,185, was the sixty-second town Mr Morales had visited in 19 days. He spent an hour telling how he — a man with practically no funds and still less political experience — planned to topple the mighty Phil Gramm this November.

He took a collection for petrol money, then set off for the next stop in America's most quixotic campaign of the year. "You're either crazy or the gutsiest person I've ever met," one leathery old Groesbeck rancher told him. "Either way you'll fit in up in Washington." Mr Morales is a short, dapper, 46-year-old civics teacher at a Dallas high school whose students last

year dared him to run for the Democratic nomination against two sitting congressmen and one other well-known Texan politician.

He took leave of absence from his job, withdrew \$8,000 (£5,100) from his savings, and last June set off on a 60,000-mile journey around Texas.

Mr Morales, the only Hispanic running against three white men, emerged victorious as the state's first-ever Hispanic Senate nominee. He drove his pick-up on to the floor of the state Democratic convention in San Antonio to a thunderous ovation.

On the face of it, Morales v. Gramm, the current state Republican senator, is a hopeless match. Mr Morales knows he can never beat Mr Gramm at his own game, and is continuing as before. But he has caught the imagination of the public.

Bob Dole, the leading Republican presidential candidate, should be uneasy. Mr Morales could conceivably deliver America's second biggest state to Bill Clinton.



Major Daniel Zajac, from New York, in talks with Bosnian Serbs who were protesting over the presence of US helicopters, serving with the UN peacekeepers, near Han Pijesak, 35 miles east of Sarajevo.

Hunt for graves begins

suspected mass grave site a few miles from Srebrenica where hundreds of slaughtered Muslims are thought to be buried. The 20-strong team, assisted by a group of local workers, cleared undergrowth from a patch of ground on a densely wooded hillside near the village of

Cerska, preparing for mechanical diggers to start work today.

Earlier a team of Norwegian experts swept the hillside with mine detectors and marked out an area with yellow ribbons.

As many as 8,000 Muslim men from the enclave are still missing and presumed dead after it fell to the Serbs last July. (AFP)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bonn warns Russia over art works

Bonn: Russia would damage its ties with Bonn if it went ahead with plans to nationalise works of art and other valuables seized from Germany in the Second World War. Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said. He told *Welt am Sonntag* that proposed Russian legislation would violate international law and bilateral treaties. "Unilateral action as envisioned by the Duma would block the way for resolving mutually this difficult and sensitive matter," Herr Kinkel said. (Reuters)

Voting limited

Nairobi: A poll to return Niger to democracy went ahead in the interior, but only government ministers and their families could vote in the capital. The public is expected to vote today. (Reuters)

Shuttle record

Cape Canaveral: The space shuttle *Columbia* and its seven astronauts returned from the longest flight in shuttle history, nearly 17 days, after solving last-minute problems with a cooling system. (AP)

Planes grounded

Wellington: Ash from Mount Ruapehu in New Zealand's North Island forced the closure of all airports north of the volcano, including the main gateway at Auckland, hundreds of miles away. (Reuters)

Flag protest

Manila: President Ramos ordered the prosecution of Christian politicians who reportedly urged followers to fly the national flag upside down in protest over a peace deal with Muslim rebels. (Reuters)

Edible edifice

Frankfurt: A 20ft tall cake built over a fountain in the central square here, for a place in the record books, was so big that it needed a special building permit. It was 18ft wide, and used 2,400 eggs. (Reuters)

Virgin Islands at risk

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TROPICAL Storm Bertha advanced on a swath of Caribbean islands yesterday, heading directly for the Virgin Islands with hurricane-strength gusts.

Governor Roy L. Schneider ordered shelters to be opened for hundreds of residents still living under tarpaulin roofs following damage in last year's storms.

The eye of the storm is expected to cross over St Thomas, the main American Virgin Island, sometime today, forecasters said. Government officials and the US National Weather Service posted hurricane warnings from Puerto Rico east and south to Dominica. They told residents to expect winds of at least 74mph and high waters within 24 hours.

Bertha raced toward the islands at about 24mph — fast for a tropical storm — producing sustained winds of 70mph and gusts of over 74mph. Tropical storms become classified as hurricanes when their maximum sustained winds reach 74mph.

□ Acapulco, Mexico: A violent storm that lashed Acapulco on Saturday left seven people dead, four injured and hundreds homeless, said the official news agency Notimex. The cost of damage, so far, to farms, homes and fishing was put at more than \$4 million (£2.6 million). (AFP)



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Revealed — the truth about false memory syndrome

The details were stomach-churning. In 1994, Connie Sievek, a 30-year-old teacher from Metropolis, Illinois, swore on oath that she recalled her father, Larry Stegman, and another man raping, murdering and disembowelling a woman.

There was one problem for the prosecution. Connie was three years old at the time of the alleged crime, and her "memories" had been eased out by a psychotherapist whom Connie had contacted while feeling depressed. The case was thrown out and Connie's recollections — which tallied disturbingly with an unsolved death of a woman in 1967 — were dismissed as gruesome fantasies made up under hypnosis.

False-memory syndrome, of which the Stegman case is thought to be an example, has

The brain's most secret workings can be picked out

been the unsavoury flip-side to the rise in popularity of psychotherapy, hypnosis and counselling. This is why a report to be published in the August issue of *Neuron*, a journal on brain research, is so important. American scientists have discovered a way of showing the difference between a true memory and a false one.

Although they emphasise that their method could not be used in court yet — it is too complicated and expensive — the research shows that even the most secret workings of the brain can be picked out. The "memories" show up as tiny, bright blobs in brain scans, which were obtained from 12 volunteers at the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Centre in Phoenix, Arizona. The positron emission tomography (PET) scanners measure blood flow to brain cells, which is a measure of activity. Cells become active when they retrieve memories. The researchers found that a true memory results in more cerebral activity, and therefore more blood.

On paper, the logistics of setting up such an experiment seem a nightmare. First the scientists had to get their human guinea-pigs to recall true memories, and then get them to recall false ones.

The trouble was, the subjects had to be convinced that they were telling the truth and recalling real events. After all, that is the hallmark of false-memory syndrome.

The research team, led by

Scientists in the United States have discovered that the brain appears to be more active when it is recalling the truth. Anjana Ahuja reports

Dr Daniel Schacter from Harvard University, came up with a simple but ingenious idea. The 12 volunteers, all women, were read a list of words. These words were vaguely related by subject — examples are *candy, cake and chocolate*.

The women were then read a second list, which featured some of the words on the first list. They were asked to sort out which words had been repeated and which were impostors. Most volunteers recalled true memories. Then a third list was read out. But this

time the impostors included words very similar to the original ones, such as *sweet*. These impostors fooled eight volunteers into thinking they had heard them before. As the women tried to distinguish between the original words and the impostors, their brains were scanned. The brain

seemed more active in a certain region while recalling a true memory. Dr Eric Reiman, Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Arizona and second author of the *Neuron* paper, says this is easily understood.

"In the case of a real word, the brain both recognised and retrieved it. In the case of an impostor word, the brain was looking at a word that was neither heard nor recalled."

Dr Reiman speculates there may be another reason for true memories stirring the brain more than false ones — our senses. For example, if you recalled smelling a rose on a summer's day, part of your memory might be the sweetness of its perfume, or how hot the day was. These sensory details are not available to somebody who didn't actually smell the flower.

As might be imagined, the effects are extremely subtle. Once the scans were made, a powerful computer program moulded each person's image into the same shape and overlaid them. "We then enhanced regions of blood flow, and the red patches generated

for 12 people were put together," Dr Reiman explains.

These scans showed that both accurate and illusory memories, as Dr Reiman labels them, trigger brain activity in the region of the left hippocampus, the part of the brain involved in conscious memory. Dr Reiman and his colleagues propose that this region of the brain gives the sense that both the true and false memories are authentic.

The difference between real and imagined memories was concentrated in the temporal-parietal region, a site in the brain known to decipher sound information.

Dr Reiman explains: "This information is not available to people who have not heard the word being said." Had the words been written down,

he says, then the brain might have retrieved the shape of the letters instead.

But the scientists are reluctant about this technique being used to prove or disprove whether something happened. Dr Schacter is constantly being asked whether it could be used as a lie-detector. He said recently: "I think not. It's all far too complicated."

And there are further, serious hurdles that would have to be overcome, according to Dr Reiman. "I am not optimistic about the uses of PET scanning being used in this way," he says. "The extremely subtle changes we have detected are for very short-term memory. We know that memory fades with time, and sensory memory may disappear. Real but distant recollections would be confused with false memories. Also, I think it's possible that people could be trained to produce misleading findings."

However, the technique has proved a powerful tool for studying memory. The next step will be to uncover the roots of malfunction, such as amnesia.



COMPUTER-ENHANCED brain images, above, show the region of the brain involved in memory. The dark spots highlight increased blood flow, a sign of brain activity. When a word was remembered accurately, left, and falsely, centre, the left hippocampus was stimulated. But a true memory stirred additional activity in the region known to handle sound patterns, right. This hallmark of authentic memory emerged when researchers looked at the differences between the first two images. It suggests sensory details distinguish true memories from false ones.



False-memory syndrome has been the unsavoury flip-side to the increase in popularity of psychotherapy and hypnosis

Secret listening devices stun oceanographers □ Farmers in Wagga Wagga fight off ryegrass

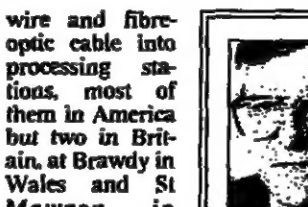
Spying from the seabed

THE end of the Cold War has brought an unexpected bonus to oceanographers. A network of secret seafloor listening devices installed by the Americans to listen to the sound of Soviet submarines is being opened for use by scientists. And what they can hear is astonishing them.

In one study, Dr Christopher Clark, of Cornell University, used the microphones to follow a single blue whale for 43 days as it swam south from Bermuda and back, covering nearly 2,000 miles. Others have listened to shoals of fish, the seabed shaking as a result of tremors, volcanoes erupting, and the sound of the French testing nuclear weapons.

The oceans are a world of sound, which can travel huge distances and contains a vast amount of information. Listening to the sounds "is the same as the Hubble telescope pointing out to the stars", according to Chris Miller, who manages a series of microphones off the California coast. "Acoustics in the ocean is the equivalent of light in space. It's the one thing that can transmit for hundreds or thousands of miles," he told *The New York Times*.

The network of microphones, called Soss (sound surveillance system), was originally installed by the US Government at a cost of \$16 billion (£10 billion). Hundreds of microphones feed sound by



SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

wire and fibre-optic cable into processing stations, most of them in America but two in Britain, at Brawdy in Wales and St Mawgan in Cornwall. Some stations are staffed, while others are filled with computers that record and analyse the data, feeding it on to a central station at Dam Neck, Virginia. Once, the entire network was used to listen to the throb of Soviet submarines in an attempt to track their movements. How successful that was is still classified data, but slowly the American Government has begun to allow others access, using filters to remove the sounds of submarines.

Among those who have campaigned for the change in policy is the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in Washington, whose executive director, Amos Enn, says that

it might be used as an early-warning system to prevent ships from running down whales. This is a real problem: this year six right whales, the most endangered species, have been killed by ships. Research could never have paid for such a complex system, nor can it even hope to find the annual running costs, which at their peak in the late 1980s amounted to \$300 million a year. But so long as the US Navy finds most of the cost, the oceanographers are happy to take advantage. To track a creature like a whale, more than one microphone is

needed, listening to the sounds the whales make. Different species can be distinguished by their different sounds, and individuals tracked for thousands of miles.

There are plenty of other sounds under the sea, not all of them identifiable. Among the mysteries are sounds that the scientists call the Echo, the Carpenter, and the Woolf. By analogy with familiar sounds on land. Where they come and what causes them, nobody knows.

Another use of the system will be to monitor the oceans for the sounds of nuclear explosions, as an aid to verifying a global test-ban treaty now being negotiated in Geneva. It works, as the microphones off California proved last year and early this year as they picked up the sounds of the French tests thousands of miles away across the Pacific.

The same microphones have tracked humpback whales, listening to them round the clock to check migratory patterns. "It's mind-boggling," says Dr Clark.

Weeds run rampant

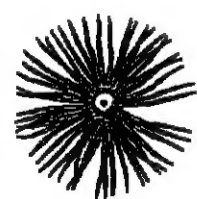
WAKE up, gardeners. Here's bad news from Wagga Wagga. Weeds are showing signs of resistance to the world's favourite herbicide, glyphosate, the active ingredient in weedkillers such as Roundup. If this spreads, there will be no cure for obstinate weeds but eternal digging, a prospect too awful to contemplate.

The resistant weed, reports the *New Scientist*, comes from a farm near Echuca, which lies on the Murray River in Victoria. The farmer last year tried to clear his fields of annual ryegrass, *Lolium rigidum*, but the weed refused to succumb. He sent seeds to Dr Jim Pratley at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, who grew plants and confirms that they are resistant to the weedkiller.

Herbicide resistance is nothing new, but for 20 years glyphosate has remained invincible. "Resistance to glyphosate was unexpected," Dr Pratley says. "But at this stage nobody knows how significant it is. It may be an isolated case or it may be widespread."

Monsanto, which sells \$1.5 billion in Roundup a year, remains sanguine. It says it has seen false alarms in the past, and has usually found that the herbicide had failed to penetrate a hard surface on the leaves of apparently resistant plants. When a surfactant — a drop of washing-up liquid, for example — is added, the problem is usually solved, because that ensures that the surface is thoroughly wetted.

Dr Pratley disagrees. He says he is in no doubt that the herbicide is getting into the plant, but that it is then somehow being metabolised or stored, or simply made inoperative in some way. And if it happens in annual ryegrass, even in distant Australia, can it be long before it pulls off the same trick in convolvulus or ground elder in British gardens? That would be a nightmare.



Diadema antillarum (Long-Spined Urchin)



Muggus thugeri (Common Hoodlum)



Latrodectus mactans (Black Widow Spider)

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Maximising Potential -

New options for learning after 16

Taking Forward the Recommendations for National Entry provision and National Traineeships in Sir Ron Dearing's Review of 16-19 Qualifications.

The Dearing report proposed two new options for 16 year olds: National Traineeships mainly for those aiming at NVQ Level 2; and National Entry provision for those not yet ready for further learning or who need special help in order to progress.

The Government has welcomed these proposals and the Department for Education and Employment (D/EE) has launched a consultation exercise on the development of the new provision.

A public Consultation Document seeks views on a range of issues related to the proposals. The closing date for comments is 30 September 1996.

Copies have been distributed widely. If you have not received one by 12th July 1996 and would like to do so, please contact Tracey Williams on 0114 2593038 or fax 0114 2593665. If you require more than five copies, please contact: Cambertown Ltd, Unit 8, Goldthorpe Industrial Estate, Goldthorpe, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S63 9BL. Tel: 01709 888688.

TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT

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Five-day trip to Atlanta for two to be won. Details
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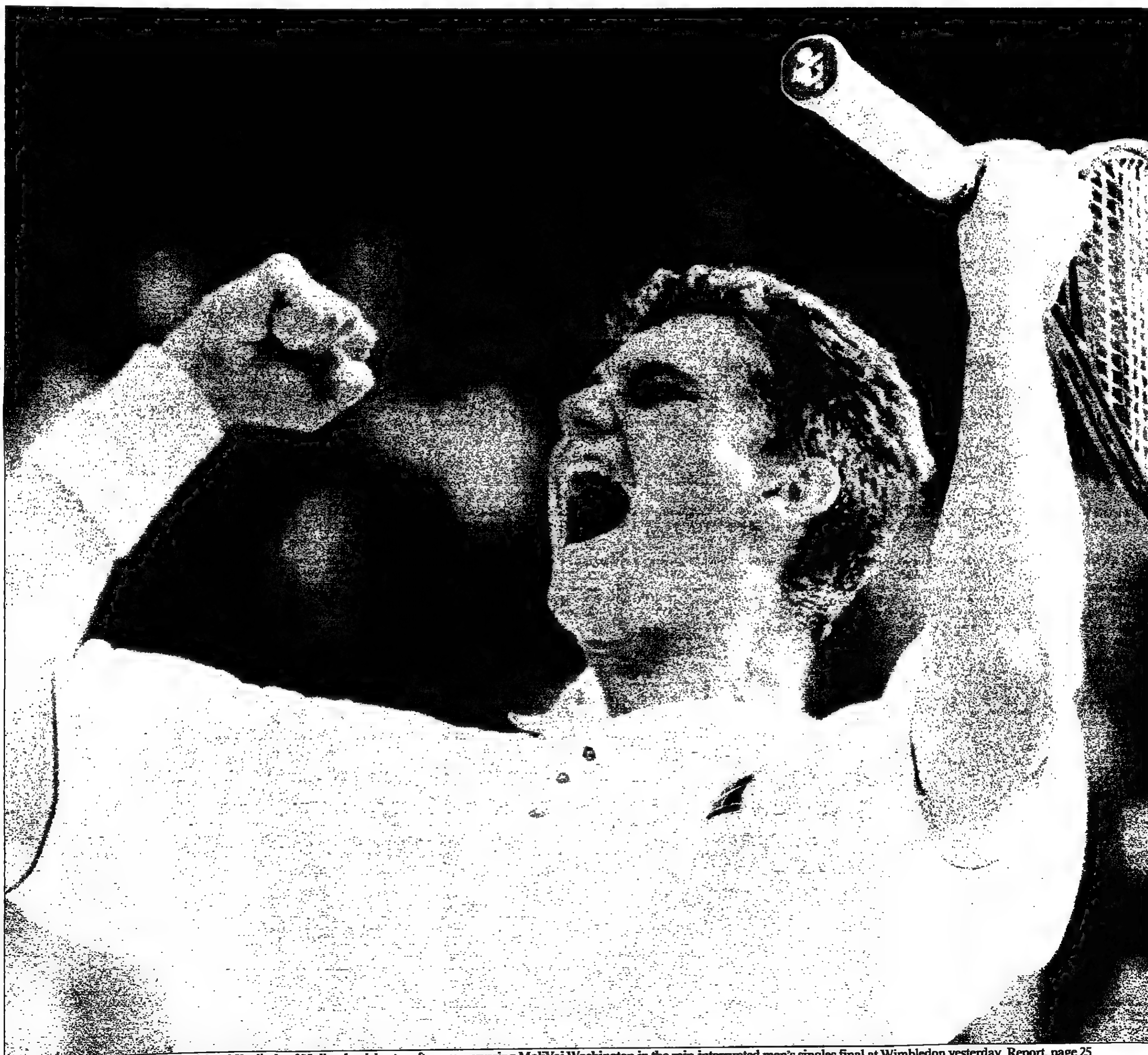
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Oliver Holt takes the fast track on the future of Formula One
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Alan Lee at Trent Bridge for the final Test
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TIMES SPORT

MONDAY JULY 8 1996


POWER AND GLORY IN DUTCH MASTERY OF THE ELEMENTS AT WIMBLEDON



Moment of triumph: Richard Krajicek, of Holland, celebrates after overpowering MaliVai Washington in the rain-interrupted men's singles final at Wimbledon yesterday. Report, page 25

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TENNIS: POWER GAME FINDS A WORTHY NEW CHAMPION AS MEN'S SINGLES TITLE GOES TO HOLLAND FOR FIRST TIME

Booming Krajicek proves irresistible force

DAVID MILLER



On the men's singles final

SOME said that it was a Wimbledon's men's singles final between a Mr Who? and a Mr Might Be. On the day, Richard Krajicek, becoming the first Wimbledon champion from Holland, and MaliVai Washington gave the Centre Court more rallies and as many spectacular winners as had Pete Sampras and Boris Becker last year.

Not a great climax to the championships, certainly, but here was a match more memorable than most previous finals involving an unseeded player. This will be recorded as the first between two such players, yet Krajicek, who won 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, was in effect the No 17 seed, having replaced the injured Thomas Muster, the original No 7 seed, in the draw.

Krajicek, 24 and born in Rotterdam of Czech parents, had earlier disposed of Sampras and Stich, the respective No 1 and No 10 seeds. His service power had always been likely to be a major force in this foremost of grass-court tournaments, and so it proved. Krajicek said he was surprised to be unseeded but understood, even though ranked No 13 on the computer, because of his poor previous Wimbledon record.

Yesterday he struck 14 aces, the fastest timed at 129mph when taking a 3-1 lead in the third set. Krajicek thought that against Sampras he had perhaps served even better. "But today, I served big when it counted," he said. "I think that's the most important. You can hit 20 aces in a match, and they were like bad aces, and you can hit 10 aces and they were on the big points. Today



Washington at full stretch in making a forehand return as Krajicek takes control on Centre Court yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

was a good day." His consistency had overpowered Sampras and Stich in straight sets, then Stoltenberg in the semi-final and now Washington. Only Steven, of New Zealand, had managed to take a set from the Dutchman in seven rounds.

Krajicek reflected that the draw had been helpful, not giving him tough matches in the first two rounds. "I've lost the last two years in the first two rounds, so I was pretty

anxious about my first match," he said. "I don't feel like a great grass-court player, but I felt I should win at least a couple of rounds in Wimbledon. I think also my game just improved, that I now have more shots on grass."

"It's not only the serve. I think my footwork also improved, so I'm moving better around the grass, because it's pretty slippery and I'm almost two metres [taller]."

Krajicek made a formidable

start yesterday, dropping only two points as he raced to a 3-0 lead and breaking Washington to 15 in the second game. In the fourth, Washington characteristically dug in, saving three break-points with big serves to hold the game, but that single break was enough to concede the first set.

In the second, the score was 1-1 and 30 all when rain halted play for half an hour. Back they came for five minutes, only to retreat again after

another eight points. Back on court, Washington held his ground for four games, but at 4-4 surrendered his service on the third of three break points. Two aces and a sizzling cross-court backhand gave Krajicek the set.

At 1-4 down in the third, Washington silenced the mounting shrieks from Dutch supporters when he broke back after one hour and 23 minutes of play, but one more game saw the end of his

worthy resistance. The Dutchman simply held too many weapons. Some of his forehand drives and volleys were almost as devastating as his service.

"I think that was the difference in the match," Washington said, "and one of the reasons why Richard had so much success here. When you're serving like that, heck, all you have to do is hold out ... and boom, mother, you're there."

Washington denied that the breaks in play had affected him. "It didn't put me off at all," he said. "I was down most of the match, and I was kind of looking at it as an opportunity. Maybe I could get a little momentum change."

Other than Boris Becker, when winning aged 17 against Kevin Curren, all other unseeded finalists lost in straight sets: Lewis v McEnroe (1985), Bungert v Newcombe (1967), Stolle v McKinley (1963), Mul-

igan v Laver (1962), Laver v Olmedo (1959), Nielsen v Trabert and Seixas (1955 and 1953), and Allison v Tilden (1930). Washington, from Florida, is in notable company.

When he stands motionless, his finely sculpted frame bent slightly forward prior to serving, Washington has the timeless grace of a bronze Olympic statue. From the start, he had the crowd's sympathy: the classic Wimbledon underdog. He hit some superb backhands, particularly in his only break of service at 1-4 down in the third set. Unfortunately for him, he was facing the man who has genuinely been the supreme player of this event.

Well might Washington say afterwards: "When you can come into a tournament with everyone there, the best players, and it's a grand slam, and you're still standing on the last day ... I look at that and say, for the fortnight I was the second-best player in the world." He is entitled to his sense of satisfaction.

He had achieved the impos-

'The Dutchman simply held too many weapons'

sible when coming back from 1-5 down in the final set against Todd Martin in Saturday's semi-final, and his honourable performance yesterday provides a role model among black people in America, indeed everywhere. There are few others on the circuit. Brian Shilton, Todd Nelson and Steve Campbell among them. With American society so television-orientated, Washington's achievement and exposure, following that of the former champion, Arthur Ashe, can perhaps convince kids in the inner-city ghettos that there is a future awaiting them in tennis as well as basketball, football and track.

Amelie Mauresmo, of France, won her second junior grand-slam singles title in a month when she took the girls' singles title at Wimbledon yesterday. Mauresmo, winner of the French Open junior title last month and seeded No 10, beat the unseeded Maria Serna, of Spain, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Misspent youth earns a final reward for private champion

Simon Barnes on how victory revealed the character of a surprise winner

YOU can keep your private parts private in most places, but not on the Centre Court. The day began with a streaker, comedy and female, trotting across the sward and lifting her only garment, a white apron, to show all those who cared exactly what she was made of.

Richard Krajicek then proceeded to do roughly the same thing. In fact, as the events of the afternoon, the incessant and exasperating rain delays and the sheer bloody-minded courage of his opponent, MaliVai Washington, stripped away the layers of his personality, you suspected Krajicek was revealing parts of himself that were so private that he himself did not know he possessed them.

He is one of those athletes who began fairly sizzling with promise, but whose career somehow missed its trajectory. He is the son of an overbearing and bullying tennis parent — I know this sounds like a tautology, but this was a childhood strained even by tennis standards. He started playing at three, has been with the Dutch federations since he was six, and by nine he was having tennis tournaments instead of holidays.

It is the sort of childhood that has broken many, and Krajicek has not come through it unscathed. He has taken refuge more than once

in injury. For the stressed and oppressed athlete, there is sweet relief in an injury. In strained and torn soft tissue lies one of the few comfortable places to be found in his world: a place free from recrimination, free from guilt, free from blame.

Krajicek's best grand-slam result before his victory at Wimbledon yesterday was to reach the semi-finals of the Australian Open in 1992. He forfeited the match with a shoulder injury. He is at present ranked 13, and grass is a surface that suits his huge-serving game. However, he was unseeded at Wimbledon this year because of a tendency to go out in the first round; he managed that two years running and was fearful that this would be a third.

This was clearly a man who sinks to the big occasion. In fact, the most notable thing Krajicek has done at Wimbledon was a few years ago to announce that all women tennis players were "lazy fat pigs" and that they were not worth their prize-money. This callow bit of attention-seeking

seemed to sum Krajicek up for all time: a man to decorate the peripheries of the big tournament, but doomed to remain always a certain distance from the centre.

But as this strange Wimbledon has progressed, and the seeds failed to germinate and the stars were eclipsed, Krajicek has found himself, to his amazement, growing to fill the space available.

Washington came in as the underdog and the crowd's favourite. Always on grass, when a big server plays a touch-and-speed man, the server finds himself cast in the role of bully. Krajicek embraced the role and the moment.

And after the last rain-break, he showed himself one of the great flat-track bullies of recent years. Reeling off 12 successive points, he broke Washington twice over and never looked like losing from there. It was the hottest of hot streaks and it was quite devastating: you wondered what he had consumed in the interval. Whatever it was, I'll have a large one.

Washington, as modest in

defeat as he had been brave in combat, praised the developments in his opponent's game. "More consistent," he said. "He doesn't give you free points any more." Clearly, then, the progression Krajicek has made has been mental rather than technical. His game has become grown-up.

He follows that monster service with crisp and constant volleying. Was there even a whiff of Edberg in some of those airborne backhands? "If he continues to play like that, he could go to the top," Washington said.

Krajicek was in that mood of terrible emotional flatness that only great achievements can give you. Shocked into a kind of deadness, he spoke mainly of his relief at not getting knocked out in the first round again. But in one revealing aside, he spoke of the emotion of disbelief that hit him a split second after the delight of his match point. He was hit by the awful thought that maybe it was not match point after all, and he was rolling about in the grass for no reason. "For a split second I thought I was making a fool of myself."

But it was really victory, and it really was him. How extraordinary: to watch, between delays for rain, as a person stripped away layer upon layer of callowness, finally to stand revealed, as a person of substance.

WIMBLEDON'S NEW KING OF SPEED

ACE SERVERS	147
RICHARD KRAJICEK	147
ALEX RADULESCU	133
GORAN IVANISEVIC	115
MALIVAI WASHINGTON	81
TODD MARTIN	72
PETE SAMPRAS	69
MICHAEL STICH	61
GREG RUSEDSKI	50
JASON STOLTENBERG	55
TIM HENMAN	50

The fastest recorded men's service is 137mph, by Greg Rusedski. Krajicek's fastest serve is 134mph.

THE CHAMPION'S WIMBLEDON RECORD

1991 3rd round
1992 3rd round
1993 4th round
1994 1st round
1995 1st round
1996 Champion

KRAJICEK'S PATH TO THE TITLE

1st round: bt J Sanchez 6-4, 6-3, 6-4
2nd round: bt D Rostagno 6-4, 6-3, 6-2
3rd round: bt B Shaven 7-5, 6-7, 6-4, 6-2
4th round: bt M Satch 6-4, 7-5, 6-4
Quarter-final: bt P Sampras 7-5, 7-6, 6-4
Semi-final: bt J Stoltenberg 6-3, 6-4, 6-3
Final: bt M Washington 6-3, 6-4, 6-3

Krajicek is 24, 6ft 5in, and a right hander. He is ranked 13th in the world.



Krajicek sends down one of his trademark services

SUCCESS.
IT'S A
MIND
GAME

TENNIS: AUSTRALIANS MAKE WIMBLEDON HISTORY WITH THEIR FOURTH SUCCESSIVE TITLE AS WEATHER DISRUPTS SCHEDULE

'Woodies' confirm place among finest double acts

By ALIX RAMSAY

THE pundits and the gurus have taken something of a hiding this year at Wimbledon. With seeds disappearing over the rain-drenched horizon at a rate of knots, nobody knew where to look next for the likely winners. The doubles, however, provided a little sanity and comfort. Two weeks ago, few would have bet against Mark Woodforde and Todd Woodbridge retaining their crown and, on Saturday evening, they did just that, the first team to win four successive men's doubles titles.

It was one of their most impressive displays so far on Centre Court. They dropped the first set against Byron Black, from Zimbabwe, and Grant Connell, from Canada, but then played near-perfect tennis to win 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-2. It overshadowed the achievements of their Australian elders, Tony Roche and John Newcombe, who won five times at Wimbledon, but never managed to dominate the event four years running.

Not that their success came as a surprise to anyone, least of all the Woodies themselves. They have been planning for this since the start of the year, making their way to SW19 with their eyes firmly fixed on the record-books. After the disappointment of losing in the semi-finals of the French Open last month, this win meant that much more to them both.

"If ever you are part of a piece of history, I think that's very, very memorable," Woodforde said. "I think this is the best we have played in the four finals here. I think both of us have struggled mentally through the whole tournament and we've just really

hung in with each other. It's the first time anyone has done it since the turn of the century and it's little old us that's done it."

When it comes to Wimbledon and history, John McEnroe is never far away. In 1990, Woodforde was partnering McEnroe while Woodbridge played with Jason Stoltenberg. McEnroe, thinking of calling it a day, offered a few tips on who Woodforde might partner next. Woodbridge's name was mentioned in dispatches.



"I was looking for someone a bit younger," Woodforde said, "and Todd was looking for someone a bit older with a bit more experience." His trainer started talking to Woodbridge's coach, a deal was struck, and the four men are now part of a record-breaking team.

The only thing that might have scuppered the Woodies' run was the rain. In 1992, they lost in the semi-finals after a wet and miserable championship. In the past three years, Wimbledon had been a rain-free zone and the Australians had basked in the sunshine, but this year they spent as much time in the locker-room watching the weather forecast as they did on court.

"I think that was in our minds the whole way through,

that we could have got to the final in '92 and didn't," Woodbridge said. "But we had delays in the third round, the quarters and the semis this year, and every time we came back on court we played great from the very first point."

The rain has played havoc with the doubles schedules, leaving the referees to pack in matches whenever there has been a spare court, a few dry moments and four players available at the same time. Late on Saturday evening, Arantxa Sánchez Vicario suffered her second defeat of the day as she and Jana Novotna, the defending champions, lost to Martina Hingis and Helena Sukova in the quarter-finals of the women's event.

Back on court bright and early yesterday, Hingis and Sukova were put to work by Liz Smylie and Linda Wild and were forced to go the distance against the Australian-American team, eventually booking their place in the final 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

The winners' cheques are generally viewed as recompense for two weeks' work only, but the mixed doubles teams might think about putting in for overtime as the finals of that competition will be held today, the third Monday — if the backlog of matches leading up to the final encounter can be cleared.

Whenever it is played, Martina Navratilova will have no part of it. Defending her title here and partnered by Jonathan Stark, she lost to Connell and Lindsay Davenport 7-6, 7-6. Navratilova had been hoping to claim her twentieth title at Wimbledon, matching Billie Jean King's record. Never mind, there is always next year.



Back on familiar territory. Woodbridge, left, and Woodforde accept the applause from the lofty heights of the royal box on Centre Court

Lee decides to mix it with the big boys at last

By ALIX RAMSAY

THE time has come, according to Martin Lee, to stop being a big fish in a small pond and risk becoming a minnow in an altogether larger body of water. Lee, who is the top-ranked junior in the world, was knocked out of the boys' singles at Wimbledon on Saturday, losing to Ivan Ljubicic, from Croatia, 7-5, 6-4. The defeat was no disgrace: Ljubicic went on to beat the No 2 seed, Peter Wessels, from Holland, to make his way to the final.

That made up for defeat at the hands of Wessels in the ITF junior event at Southampton last week, but asked to go one step further, Ljubicic fell at the final hurdle. He was beaten

by the No 6 seed, Vladimir Voltchkov, from Belarus. He lost 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 in a little over 1½ hours.

Lee, meanwhile, now has his mind on other things. His first taste of playing on the senior circuit came at Queen's Club three weeks ago, when he was beaten in the first round. Nevertheless, it gave him a taste of life in the grown-ups' world and he discovered that he liked it. Lee's next target is the Bristol Challenger next week, where he has been given a wild card.

All things considered, it was not the greatest of weekends for Lee. Not only is he the top junior in singles, but he is also the best young doubles player in the world as well. Alongside James Trotman, he won the Wimbledon

junior doubles last year and was heading happily towards the All England Club to defend his title until Trotman was forced to withdraw with a wrist injury.

In a scratch pairing, he teamed up with David Sherwood, from Sheffield, and they fought through to the semi-finals before losing 7-6, 7-6 to the No 2 seeds, Damien Roberts and Wesley Whitehouse, from South Africa. But there is time yet for Sherwood, who only turned 16 at the start of the month, and when it comes to professional sport, there is not much he does not already know.

Sherwood comes from a family of sportsmen. His father, John, won the bronze medal in the 400 metres

hurdles in the 1968 Olympics, while his mother, Sheila, won the silver medal in the long jump at the same Olympics.

Young David has also been around the sports himself, signing schoolboy forms with Sheffield Wednesday before deciding to trade in his football boots for a tennis racket and moving to Bisham Abbey to be coached by Ian Barclay.

The rest of the British hopefuls also failed to get beyond the semi-finals, with Ben Harran, from Alton in Hampshire, and Simon Pender, from Penzance, losing to the top seeds, Daniele Bracciali, from Italy, and Jocelyn Robichaud, from Canada, 6-4, 6-3.



Navratilova raises a smile as she walks off No 1 Court after her dream of a twentieth Wimbledon title had been dashed yesterday

RESULTS FROM THE ALL ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's singles

Winner: £392,500

Runner-up: £196,250

Holder: P Sampras (US)

Semi-finals

M Washington (US) bt T Martin (US)

5-7, 6-4, 6-7, 6-3, 10-8

R Krajicek (Hol) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus)

7-5, 6-2, 6-1

Final

KRAJICEK bt Washington 6-3, 6-4, 6-3

Women's singles

Winner: £363,000

Runner-up: £176,500

Holder: S Graf (Ger)

Final

S GRAF (Ger) bt A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) 6-3, 7-5

Men's doubles

Winners: £160,810

Runners-up: £80,400

Holder: T A Woodforde and M Woodbridge (Aus)

Semi-final

T A WOODBRIDGE and M WOODFORDE (Aus) bt M PHILIPPOUSIS and P RAFTER (Aus) 6-3, 7-6, 7-6

Final

WOODBRIDGE and WOODFORDE bt B BLACK (Zim) and G CONNELL (Can) 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-2

Women's doubles

Winners: £139,040

Runners-up: £69,300

Holder: J Novotna (Cz) and A Sanchez Vicario (Sp)

Quarter-finals

G FERNANDEZ (US) and N ZVEREVA (Rus) bt Y BASUKI (Indo) and C M VES (Rus) 6-1, 6-4

Final

M HINGIS (Swi) and H SUKOVA (Cz) bt J NOVOTNA (Cz) and A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) 3-6, 7-6, 6-3

Men's Over-45 doubles

Winners: £10,500

Runners-up: £3,250

Holder: J D Newcombe and A D Roche (Aus)

Semi-finals

M C Riessen and S E Stewart (US) bt I Nastase (Rom) and T S Oikar (Fin) 6-3, 7-5

J G Alexander and P C Darr (Aus) bt R A J Hewitt and P D McMillan (SA) 6-0, 6-2

Final

Alexander and Darr bt Riessen and Stewart 7-6, 6-2

Women's Over-35 doubles

Winners: £9,400

Runners-up: £2,200

Holder: W M Turnbull (Aus) and S V Wade (GB)

First round

Alexander and Darr bt Riessen and Stewart 7-6, 6-2

Boys' singles

Holder: O Muts (Fr)

Quarter-finals

V Voltchkov (Bel) bt N Masau (Chile) 7-5, 2-6, 8-6

P Wessels (Hol) bt P Sanchapan (Thai) 6-4, 6-4

I Ljubicic (Croi) bt M Lee (GB) 7-5, 6-4

J Ochoa (Arg) bt J R Brandt (Ger) 7-6, 6-3

Semi-finals

Ljubicic bt Wessels 7-5, 6-4

Voltchkov bt Ochoa 3-6, 6-2, 6-3

Final

Voltchkov bt Ljubicic 3-6, 6-2, 6-3

Girls' singles

Holder: A Olsza (Pol)

Quarter-finals

N Datchy (Fr) bt S Reeves (US) 6-3, 7-5

M Serra (Sp) bt M Jeon (S Kor) 6-4, 6-7, 6-3

Semi-finals

A Mauresmo (Fr) bt A G Sidal (Fr) 6-4, 6-3

Sema bt Datchy 7-6, 6-1

Final

Mauresmo bt Sema 4-6, 6-3, 6-4

MEN'S SINGLES						
First round	Second round	Third round	Fourth round	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final
(1) P Sampras (US) v R Rensberg (US)	Sampson	Sampson				
M Philippoussis (Aus) v J Frans (Arg)	Philippoussis		Sampson			
K Gossens (Bel) v B Black (Zim)	Black	Kucera				
K Alami (Mor) v K Kucera (Slovakia)	Kucera					
J Krcisek (Slovakia) v A Foster (GB)	Krcisek	Krcisek		Sampson		
C Wilkison (GB) v A Jarryd (Swe)	Wilkison					
L Paves (Indo) v M Patchey (GB)	Patchey	Poline				
J Stenmark (Hol) v (18) C Poline (Fr)	Poline					
(19) M Böhle (Ger) v B Schalken (Hol)	Böhle	Stich				
C Raud (Nor) v S Matsuda (Japan)	Matsuda					
S Stolle (Aus) v D Nargiso (It)	Stolle	Stich				
M Woodforde (Aus) v M Larsson (Swe)	Larsson					
D Nestor (Can) v G Rusedski (GB)	Rusedski	Stevan				
D Karpman (Hol) v B Stevan (NZ)	Stevan					
D Rostagno (US) v J van Herck (Bel)	Rostagno	Krajicek				
J Sánchez (Sp) v (17) R Krajicek (Hol)	Krajicek					
(4) G Ivanisevic (Croi) v D Naiman (SA)	Ivanisevic					
P Boudry (Fr) v C Moye (Sp)	Boudry	Ivanisevic				
L Maritz (Swi) v A Volkov (Rus)	Volkov					
O Ogorodov (Uzb) v M Damm (Cz)	Damm					
G Pozzi (It) v J Cunha-Silva (Por)	Pozzi	Rafter				
P Rafter (Aus) v D Vacek (Cz)	Rafter					
A Orlowski (Rus) v H Dreckman (Ger)	Orlowski	Rosen				
S Dreyer (Aus) v (14) M Rosen (Swi)	Rosen					
(12) S Edberg (Swe) v G Forget (Fr)	Edberg	Ytterstrom				
M Tilmann (Swe) v M Gollner (Ger)	Tilmann					
M Tabuss (Aus) v A Coria (Sp)	Coria					
A Chennokov (Rus) v J Hasek (Swi)	Hasek					
J Rencz (Ger) v J Novak (Cz)	Novak	Stoltenberg				
J Stoltenberg (Aus) v A Vaino (Fin)	Stoltenberg					
M Navarra (It) v D Rik (Cz)	Navarra					
A Costa (Sp) v (8) M Chang (US)	Costa					
(5) Y Kafelnikov (Rus) v T Henman (GB)	Henman					
P Tramacchi (Aus) v D Seppert (GB)	Seppert	Herrman				
J Bjorkman (Swe) v L Millgen (GB)	Millgen					
K Carlsen (Den) v N Lapenna (Ecu)	Lapenna					
T Woodbridge (Aus) v B Huot (Fr)	Woodbridge	Gustafsson				
M Gustafsson (Swe) v A Ble (Aus)	Gustafsson					
M Joyce (US) v A Gaudenzi (It)	Gaudenzi					
B Pinnell (Ger) v (11) W Ferreira (SA)	Ferreira					
(13) T Martin (US) v M Ondruska (SA)	Martin					
E Sanchez (Sp) v J Grabb (US)	Grabb	Martin				
R Furian (It) v A Medvedev (Ukr)	Furian					
C Beecher (GB) v N Gould (GB)	Beecher					
H Arzi (Mor) v N Kula (Swe)	Arzi	Johansson				
T Johansson (Swe) v J Ellingh (Hol)	Johansson					
J Palmer (US) v T Champion (Fr)	Palmer	Flach				
D Flach (US) v (3) A Agassi (US)	Flach					
(8) J Courier (US) v J Stark (US)	Stark					
M Knowles (Beh) v J Gilmard (Fr)	Knowles	Haarhuis				
F Mantilla (Sp) v P Haarhuis (Hol)	Haarhuis					
M J Bates (GB) v N Parera (Ven)	Parera					
B Ullrich (S) v C Costa (Sp)	Ullrich					
F Delfino (Bel) v F Spadaro (US)	Delfino	Washington				
R Fromberg (Aus) v M Washington (US)	Washington					
A Chang (Can) v (9) T Enqvist (Swe)	Enqvist	Washington				
(15) A Bostech (Fr) v A Radulescu (Ger)	Radulescu					
S Pescosolido (It) v C Woodruff (US)	Woodruff					
D Wheaton (US) v F Fentelme (Den)	Wheaton					
G Raoux (Fr) v Y el Anouar (Mor)	Raoux					
G Stafford (US) v S Noszaly (Hung)	Stafford					
N Godwin (SA) v C Carroll (It)	Godwin					
F Clavier (Sp) v T Carbonell (Sp)	Carbonell					
J Flaurian (Fr) v (2) B Becker (Ger)	Becker					

Champion

R Krajicek (Hol)

CRICKET: BOLD BATTING, FICKLE FATES AND PLACID PITCH COMBINE TO FRUSTRATE SRINATH

Atherton still setting lofty targets

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of five): England, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 199 runs behind India

MICHAEL ATHERTON believes that all things remain possible over the coming two days in Nottingham and, on a strictly personal level, he is correct. Nothing need be beyond his ambitions against the record books this morning. On a pitch of numbing torpor, however, the one thing that does not seem possible is a positive outcome to this final Cornhill Test.

England lost only one wicket — and that to a bad umpiring decision — in an entire day of batting on Saturday. Only with their last run of the day, though, did they avoid the theoretical threat of following on and they remain the equivalent of two productive sessions behind India. It takes a supreme optimist to devise a winning scenario for either side from this stalemate, but Atherton, who was yesterday reappointed England captain for the coming series with Pakistan, is playing the part gamely.

"We can still win it," he said. "First, we must aim to bat for

at the start of play and immediately after lunch, the England batting and the fickle fates must both take a bow. Flat and lifeless surface this may be, but Srinath somehow made the ball talk on it and his analysis of one for 82 was dreadfully unjust.

Alec Stewart remains below his best but he had completed a second successive half-century when K. T. Francis upheld an appeal for a catch behind. The ball actually missed the bat by some distance on its route past the inside edge, but Stewart at least departed with the consolation that he had shared an opening stand of 130, only the third time in 52 attempts that he and Atherton have given the England innings a century start.

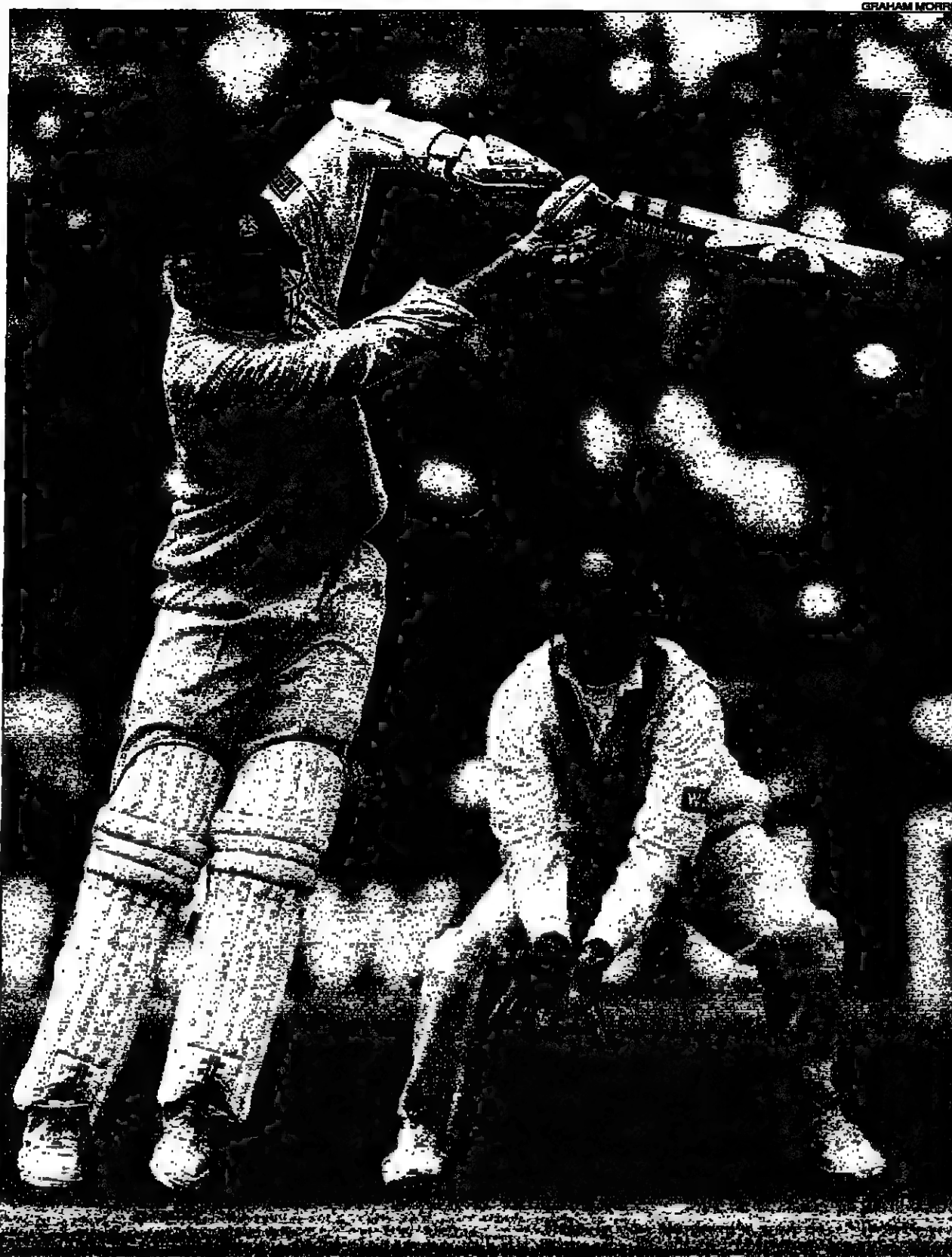
That it happened now is something that Srinath will find incomprehensible, so great was the fortune that both batsmen required during his opening spell. Atherton, too far across, somehow survived a leg-before appeal when all three stumps seemed threatened and was then dropped for a second time at third slip, this one by Azharuddin.

Srinath's deceptively quick bouncer brought flawed, post-humous strokes from both openers and, when he returned after lunch with England in full sail, he bowled an over of such controlled variation, all of it too good for the batsman, all of it unrewarded, that his grin at the end of it said much for the character of the man.

The recipient of that over was Nasser Hussain, Atherton's partner in a second-wicket stand so far worth 192. That both have made hundreds is wonderful news for England, because Atherton needed a long innings to repair his rhythm and the team needed Hussain to underscore the fact that he has solved, for some time to come, the discomfort over who must bat at No.3. Hussain likes doing the job and he does it well; judging by the brimming confidence with which he began on Saturday, driving like a man who had been entrenched for hours, he will not easily be usurped.

Atherton and Hussain go back a long way. They played together for England under-15s and, in 1984, on opposite sides in a match between Southern Schools and The Rest, they got each other out. Bowling aspirations have subsequently perished but the joy of two old friends was evident to all as they celebrated their centuries — Atherton with as broad a grin as he has ever exhibited in public, Hussain with both arms thrust above his head. On the team balcony, Raymond Illingworth smiled paternally.

A fortnight ago, during the Lord's Test, Atherton had been subservient to another superb spell from Srinath and confided: "I couldn't see how I could get a run against him." There will be mutual respect now, for while Atherton struggled at first on Saturday, long before the close he was into the old rhythm. "I started to reacquaint myself with my technique," he said with a smile. "It had been missing for a while."



Atherton rediscovered his most fluent form during his unbeaten 145 at Trent Bridge on Saturday

SCOREBOARD

INDIA: First Innings 521 (S R Tendulkar 177, S C Ganguly 136, R Dravid 84, S V Mirankar 62)

ENGLAND: First Innings 145 (M A Atherton not out, 145 (410min, 239 balls, 17 fours))

A J Stewart c Morgan b Srinath — 50 (170min, 118 balls, 6 fours)

N Hussain not out — 107 (233min, 180 balls, 12 fours)

Extras (lb 3, lb 9, nb 0) — 80

Total (1 wk, 102 overs, 410min) — 522

G P Thorpe, G A Hick, M A Atherton, P C Russell, C C Lewis, D G Cork, M M Patel and A D Mallya to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-130 (Atherton 70, 3-130-45-0, 5-3-21-1, 6-1-10-0, 7-0-0-0, 8-0-0-0, 9-0-0-0, 10-0-0-0, 11-0-0-0, 12-0-0-0, 13-0-0-0, 14-0-0-0, 15-0-0-0, 16-0-0-0, 17-0-0-0, 18-0-0-0, 19-0-0-0, 20-0-0-0, 21-0-0-0, 22-0-0-0, 23-0-0-0, 24-0-0-0, 25-0-0-0, 26-0-0-0, 27-0-0-0, 28-0-0-0, 29-0-0-0, 30-0-0-0, 31-0-0-0, 32-0-0-0, 33-0-0-0, 34-0-0-0, 35-0-0-0, 36-0-0-0, 37-0-0-0, 38-0-0-0, 39-0-0-0, 40-0-0-0, 41-0-0-0, 42-0-0-0, 43-0-0-0, 44-0-0-0, 45-0-0-0, 46-0-0-0, 47-0-0-0, 48-0-0-0, 49-0-0-0, 50-0-0-0, 51-0-0-0, 52-0-0-0, 53-0-0-0, 54-0-0-0, 55-0-0-0, 56-0-0-0, 57-0-0-0, 58-0-0-0, 59-0-0-0, 60-0-0-0, 61-0-0-0, 62-0-0-0, 63-0-0-0, 64-0-0-0, 65-0-0-0, 66-0-0-0, 67-0-0-0, 68-0-0-0, 69-0-0-0, 70-0-0-0, 71-0-0-0, 72-0-0-0, 73-0-0-0, 74-0-0-0, 75-0-0-0, 76-0-0-0, 77-0-0-0, 78-0-0-0, 79-0-0-0, 80-0-0-0, 81-0-0-0, 82-0-0-0, 83-0-0-0, 84-0-0-0, 85-0-0-0, 86-0-0-0, 87-0-0-0, 88-0-0-0, 89-0-0-0, 90-0-0-0, 91-0-0-0, 92-0-0-0, 93-0-0-0, 94-0-0-0, 95-0-0-0, 96-0-0-0, 97-0-0-0, 98-0-0-0, 99-0-0-0, 100-0-0-0, 101-0-0-0, 102-0-0-0, 103-0-0-0, 104-0-0-0, 105-0-0-0, 106-0-0-0, 107-0-0-0, 108-0-0-0, 109-0-0-0, 110-0-0-0, 111-0-0-0, 112-0-0-0, 113-0-0-0, 114-0-0-0, 115-0-0-0, 116-0-0-0, 117-0-0-0, 118-0-0-0, 119-0-0-0, 120-0-0-0, 121-0-0-0, 122-0-0-0, 123-0-0-0, 124-0-0-0, 125-0-0-0, 126-0-0-0, 127-0-0-0, 128-0-0-0, 129-0-0-0, 130-0-0-0, 131-0-0-0, 132-0-0-0, 133-0-0-0, 134-0-0-0, 135-0-0-0, 136-0-0-0, 137-0-0-0, 138-0-0-0, 139-0-0-0, 140-0-0-0, 141-0-0-0, 142-0-0-0, 143-0-0-0, 144-0-0-0, 145-0-0-0, 146-0-0-0, 147-0-0-0, 148-0-0-0, 149-0-0-0, 150-0-0-0, 151-0-0-0, 152-0-0-0, 153-0-0-0, 154-0-0-0, 155-0-0-0, 156-0-0-0, 157-0-0-0, 158-0-0-0, 159-0-0-0, 160-0-0-0, 161-0-0-0, 162-0-0-0, 163-0-0-0, 164-0-0-0, 165-0-0-0, 166-0-0-0, 167-0-0-0, 168-0-0-0, 169-0-0-0, 170-0-0-0, 171-0-0-0, 172-0-0-0, 173-0-0-0, 174-0-0-0, 175-0-0-0, 176-0-0-0, 177-0-0-0, 178-0-0-0, 179-0-0-0, 180-0-0-0, 181-0-0-0, 182-0-0-0, 183-0-0-0, 184-0-0-0, 185-0-0-0, 186-0-0-0, 187-0-0-0, 188-0-0-0, 189-0-0-0, 190-0-0-0, 191-0-0-0, 192-0-0-0, 193-0-0-0, 194-0-0-0, 195-0-0-0, 196-0-0-0, 197-0-0-0, 198-0-0-0, 199-0-0-0, 200-0-0-0, 201-0-0-0, 202-0-0-0, 203-0-0-0, 204-0-0-0, 205-0-0-0, 206-0-0-0, 207-0-0-0, 208-0-0-0, 209-0-0-0, 210-0-0-0, 211-0-0-0, 212-0-0-0, 213-0-0-0, 214-0-0-0, 215-0-0-0, 216-0-0-0, 217-0-0-0, 218-0-0-0, 219-0-0-0, 220-0-0-0, 221-0-0-0, 222-0-0-0, 223-0-0-0, 224-0-0-0, 225-0-0-0, 226-0-0-0, 227-0-0-0, 228-0-0-0, 229-0-0-0, 230-0-0-0, 231-0-0-0, 232-0-0-0, 233-0-0-0, 234-0-0-0, 235-0-0-0, 236-0-0-0, 237-0-0-0, 238-0-0-0, 239-0-0-0, 240-0-0-0, 241-0-0-0, 242-0-0-0, 243-0-0-0, 244-0-0-0, 245-0-0-0, 246-0-0-0, 247-0-0-0, 248-0-0-0, 249-0-0-0, 250-0-0-0, 251-0-0-0, 252-0-0-0, 253-0-0-0, 254-0-0-0, 255-0-0-0, 256-0-0-0, 257-0-0-0, 258-0-0-0, 259-0-0-0, 260-0-0-0, 261-0-0-0, 262-0-0-0, 263-0-0-0, 264-0-0-0, 265-0-0-0, 266-0-0-0, 267-0-0-0, 268-0-0-0, 269-0-0-0, 270-0-0-0, 271-0-0-0, 272-0-0-0, 273-0-0-0, 274-0-0-0, 275-0-0-0, 276-0-0-0, 277-0-0-0, 278-0-0-0, 279-0-0-0, 280-0-0-0, 281-0-0-0, 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919-0-0-0, 920-0-0-0, 921-0-0-0, 922-0-0-0, 923-0-0-0, 924-0-0-0, 925-0-0-0, 926-0-0-0, 927-0-0-0, 928-0-0-0, 929-0-0-0, 930-0-0-0, 931-0-0-0, 932-0-0-0, 933-0-0-0, 934-0-0-0, 935-0-0-0, 936-0-0-0, 937-0-0-0, 938-0-0-0, 939-0-0-0, 940-0-0-0, 941-0-0-0, 942-0-0-

CRICKET: TEENAGERS SUBDUE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ATTACK WITH UNLIKELY RECORD PARTNERSHIP

Kabir offers glimpse of golden future for Pakistan

By JACK BAILEY

NORTHAMPTON (second day of three. Northamptonshire won toss). Northamptonshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 100 runs behind the Pakistanis

SHADAB KABIR may not figure largely for Pakistan in the forthcoming Test matches with England — at 19, he was picked for this tour chiefly to gain experience — yet, yesterday, he played an innings to relish, rich in promise, if not quite in fulfilment. He felt one short of a well-deserved century after featuring in a stand of 171 for the Pakistanis' eighth wicket with another 19-year-old, Saqlain Mushtaq, that revived their team's fortunes after seven wickets had been lost for 140 and Pakistan were still 12 runs behind.

More than that, these two stripplings swept into oblivion the previous highest eighth-wicket partnership made against Northamptonshire. Surprisingly, this had stood firm since 1925, when Harold Larwood and W R D Poynt put on 151 at Trent Bridge. Good players both, but they will not have batted better than the young Pakistanis did on this occasion.

The left-handed Kabir sprang first to prominence in English eyes when he took 74 off England in Karachi during a warm-up match before the recent World Cup. Described by the little master,

Hanif Mohammed, as a prodigy. Kabir certainly has all the makings. Neat, the possessor of positive footwork and a sound temperament, quick to punish the wayward ball, he was so rarely in trouble that it came as a shock when David Capel moved a beauty away late and had him caught behind from the second new ball.

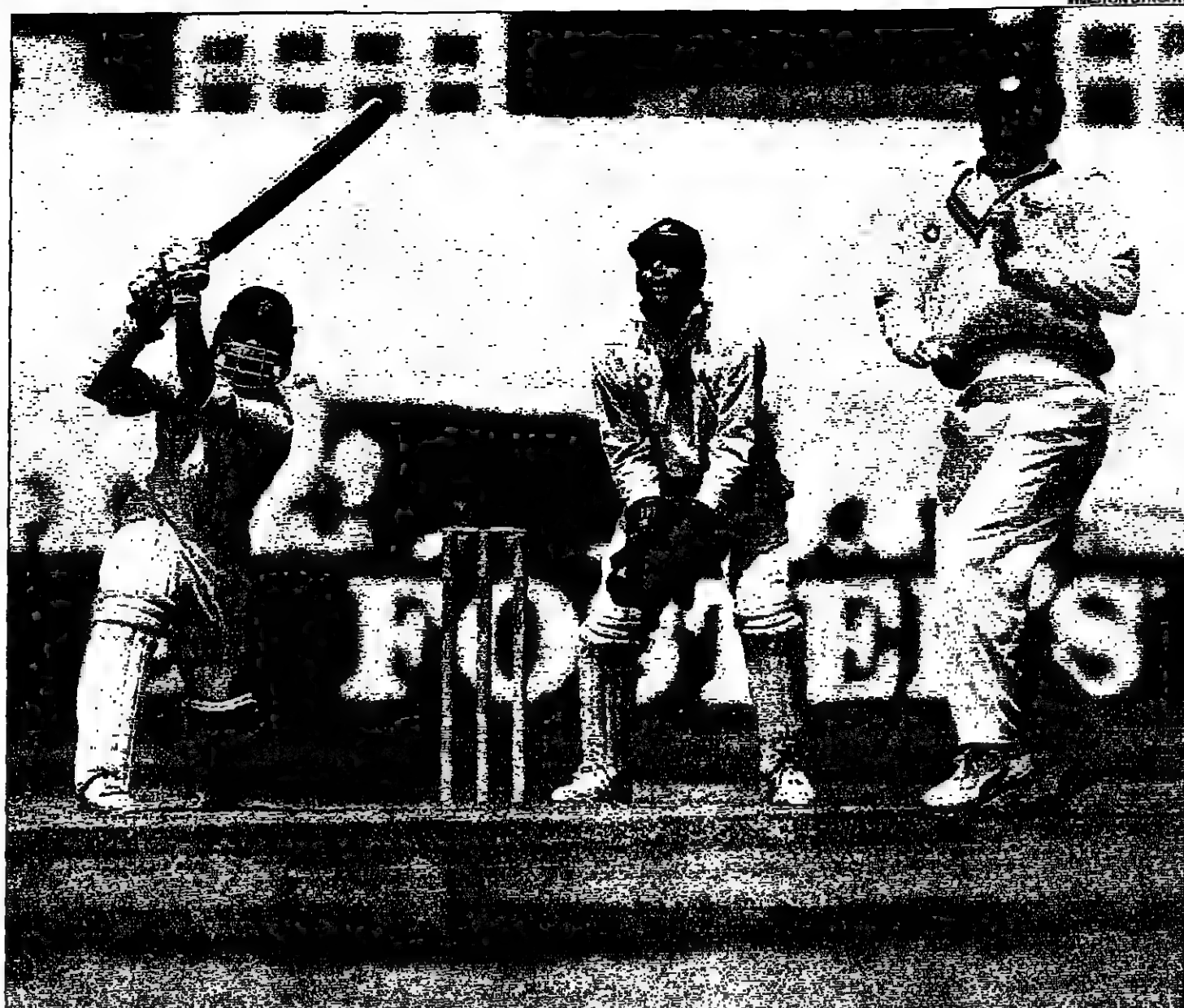
Mushtaq, his partner throughout an afternoon that saw Pakistan rebuild an innings that had all but collapsed, is trumpeted as one of the best off spin bowlers around. On this evidence, while not in the same class as Kabir, he is also a batsman of considerable talent, confident and uninhibited.

The Northamptonshire attack, it is true, lacked the razor's edge — Ambrose, Taylor, Curran, Penberthy and Emburey were all resting before the Benson and Hedges Cup final next Saturday — but, with Capel working up a fair head of steam and Scot Boswell anxious to prove himself, the Pakistanis, resuming at 79 for one, lost Shahid Anwar to Taylor in the day's first over and, after 80 minutes, were reduced to 140 for seven. Shahid was taken by Capel at slip and Boswell soon had Jiaz Ahmed palpably in front. All arms, legs and eagerness, Boswell generated a lively pace, without quite making the most of his 6ft 4in frame. He will, however, remember his first two wickets for Northamptonshire, which started the Pakistanis' slide.

The running out of Mujtaba by a fine throw from Swann, substituting for the injured Mallerder, did not help the Pakistan cause and, once started, the Pakistan decline gathered momentum, aided chiefly by the ever-willing Capel. But Kabir played himself in, watchful and untroubled.

Once Mushtaq became established, Kabir blossomed. His first 50 came in 2½ hours from 104 balls. He faced only 89 balls for his second 49 runs. When he was out, his partnership with the increasingly-confident Mushtaq was worth 171 from 49 overs and although Mushtaq finally perished after an innings of 24 hours, Pakistan held a lead of 171.

This was reduced to exactly 100 by Alan Fordham and Richard Montgomerie as the shadows lengthened. Nevertheless, the day belonged to the sure and wristy batting of Kabir. Of him, the personable Pakistan manager, Yawar Saeed, while not willing to be drawn on the immediate future, said: "I was delighted not only with his runs, but the way he made them. He is a young batsman who will feature with Pakistan for a long time to come." Those here yesterday will find it hard not to agree with him.



Kabir strikes a six off Snape to provide evidence of his huge potential as the Pakistanis take control at Northampton

Adams gives Schultz swift response

By SIMON WILDE

CHESTERFIELD (second day of three. South Africa A won toss). South Africa A, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 134 runs ahead of Derbyshire

THE biggest obstacle to South Africa becoming the world's leading Test match nation by the end of the century, as All Bacher tells them they can be, is their players' lack of practical experience. Talent, such as that possessed by Jacques Kallis and Paul Adams, is all very well, but sporting isolation has left players, coaches and administrators alike with a lot of catching up to do.

Fifteen promising South Africans arrived in England last week to do just that. Playing under the title of South Africa A, they were engaged at Queen's Park, Chesterfield, yesterday in the second fixture of a 12-match tour.

Even though the average age of the players under John Commins, the captain, is less than 24, eight of them have already played at international level, so they are here not so much to lay claim to places in the full South Africa side as to sample English conditions. It has not escaped Bacher's notice that South Africa are due to tour England in 1998, or that the next World Cup is to be held here the following year. Unfortunately, their first match in Leeds was spoiled by the rain and their second by being staged on an unhelpfully slow pitch, the slowest at Chesterfield for many a year.

It is making for an unbalanced contest between bat and ball, one kept alive only by two pragmatic first-innings declarations.

The visitors were taught some lessons, though, as Derbyshire spent much of the day scoring 316 for five before declaring six runs in arrears. This innings contained four half-centuries, so there were few easy pickings for the bowlers. Each man had to be chiselled out and it made for hard going.

If Schultz, the man who began

the winter Test series against England with such high hope and hype, came here thinking he could bounce out a few locals, he is discovering otherwise. But he still bowled far too short yesterday.

Chris Adams, whose 66 was the best innings of the day, Schultz tried to give him something to remember him by the moment he came to the crease but the ball — it was, in any case, a no-ball — was fetched from outside off stump and up against the boards on the mid-wicket boundary in a trice.

Adams also seized the initiative against the left-arm spin of Boje, whose first ball turned and beat his bat. He took 19 runs off one of

his overs and should have maintained his attack for longer, but holed out tamely to mid-on. Even so, when he had scored 35, Adams became the fourth batsman this season to reach 1,000 runs and deserves an A tour of his own with England to Australia in October.

Of the other Derbyshire half-centuries, O'Connor's was the most workmanlike, Wells's the most entertaining and May's the most commendable, being the first of his short career.

The South Africans' response to all this resistance was to allow their over-rate to drop to the wholly unacceptable level of 12.1 per hour. In this way alone did they resemble a Test match team.

Assuming this does not become a habit, though, they have much to offer. Kallis batted beautifully on the first day for his 92 and Goolam Rajah, their manager, has no difficulty identifying the successors to the present generation. MacMillan's mantle of all-rounder could go to Klusener, Rhodes, as batsman-cum-fielding-livewire, may be succeeded by Gibbs; and Richardson can hand over the gauntlets, when the time comes, to Potgieter.

Liebenberg and Koenig also showed, in putting together a stand of 128 in 31 overs, that there is no shortage of batting talent.

SCOREBOARD

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings	
R R Montgomerie bow to Wismar	43
A Fordham bow to Wismar	37
J J Warren bow to Shahid	3
M B Lowe bow to Wismar	1
R J Bailey bow to Shahid	1
D J Capel bow to Wismar	2
J N Snape bow to Wismar	7
10 Napier bow to Wismar	13
J G Hughes bow to Shahid	13
N A Mallerder bow to Shahid	7
N A Boswell not out	3
Extras (b 5, lb 7, w 3, nb 8)	23
Total (28.2 overs)	160

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-89, 2-84, 3-98, 4-105, 5-107, 6-116, 7-120, 8-143, 9-146.

BOWLING: Wismar 20-3-55, 3-55, 4-55, 5-55, 6-55, 7-55, 8-55, 9-55.

Extras (b 4, lb 4, w 4, nb 4)

Total (no wk)

BOWLING: Wismar 10-4-25-0, Mohammed 10-4-25-0, Shahid 10-4-25-0, Saqlain 10-4-25-0.

Extras (b 4, lb 4, w 4, nb 4)

Total (no wk)

BOWLING: Wismar 10-4-25-0, Mohammed 10-4-25-0, Shahid 10-4-25-0, Saqlain 10-4-25-0.

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Extras (b 4, lb 4, w 4, nb 4)

Total (no wk)

Middlesex stay top despite loss to Surrey

By IVO TENNANT

MIDDLESEX, who only last week gained the leadership of the AXA Equity & Law League, came to realise yesterday how difficult it is to remain at the top. Surrey, six points behind them at the start of play, beat them by eight wickets, Darren Bicknell making an unbeaten half-century.

Surrey bowled Middlesex out for 131, which was their lowest total in this fixture. Hollisake took three wickets and Martin Bicknell 20. His brother then put on 57 for the first wicket with Brown and reached his half-century off 86 balls. Middlesex, however, continue to lead the table.

Kent beat Durham by six wickets at the Mole. The champions made certain of victory through Hooper and Cowdrey putting on 130 in 19 overs for the third wicket. The West Indian took three for 21 and then struck an unbeaten 76 off 86 balls.

Simmons, the West Indies batsman, enabled Leicestershire to gain their first Sunday league victory at Grace Road through striking 71 off 70 balls. He then dismissed Irani just as Essex were thinking of an unlikely victory. The England all-rounder hit 60 off 50 balls, but his side were nine runs short of their target.

At Bristol, Glamorgan lost their first six wickets for 56 but still managed to beat Gloucestershire by 94 runs. This owed much to a partnership of 91 between Evans, making his Sunday league debut, and Gibson. Gloucestershire were dismissed for 102 in 30 overs,

AXA Equity & Law League

Gloucestershire v Glamorgan

BRISTOL (Gloucestershire won toss). Gloucestershire (4pts) beat Glamorgan (0pts) by 94 runs

Gloucestershire

S P James run out

H Morris & Williams bow to Wismar

M P Maynard & Smith bow to Wismar

R B Croft bow to Wismar

M P Maynard & Smith bow to Wismar

P A Collier bow to Wismar

O D Gibson & Williams bow to Wismar

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Leicestershire v Essex

LEICESTER (Essex won toss). Leicestershire (4pts) beat Essex by nine runs

Leicestershire

P V Simmons run out

J F Smith & Lewis bow to Wismar

J F Smith & Lewis bow to Wismar

J F Smith & Lewis bow to Wismar

J F Smith & Lewis bow to Wismar

J F Smith & Lewis bow to Wismar

J F Smith & Lewis bow to Wismar

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mauled
by Moody's
all-round
domination

CRICKET

Injured Reeve to contemplate early retirement

IT HAS been a turbulent summer for Warwickshire and now they must complete it without the soul and inspiration of their success. Dermot Reeve, who has led them to six trophies since 1993, is to have surgery on an arthritic hip and will not play again this season. The chances are, indeed, that we shall not see him in competitive cricket again.

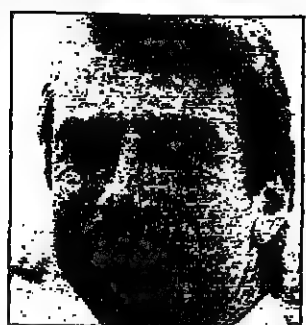
This news might appear to dominate the county scene this morning, until one delves beneath the bare bones of a damp Londoners' reunion at the Oval. There, defiant against Surrey in particular and the world in general, Philip Tufnell, of Middlesex, took five wickets for the third time in four innings.

To liken Reeve to Tufnell would be disingenuous. Neither man would care much for it and it would not strictly be accurate. Though both are gregarious characters with a maverick streak, Reeve is essentially High Life. Tufnell tends more to the earthy. One inclines towards champagne and black tie, the other towards beer, fags and no tie.

Where they can be compared is in perception of their personalities. Peers admire them as cricketers and observe them with fascination rather than feeling drawn towards them as men, while the top table which sits in judgment—selectors and their like—regard them with suspicion. It is largely for this reason that Reeve was not chosen initially for the World Cup and Tufnell is not now selected regularly in the Test team. In a game that depends upon team unity over long periods, their faces do not fit.

Now there are unquestionably valid factors involved here and the suggestion of simple prejudice would be false. Taken in isolation, Reeve's cricketing ability is limited, while Tufnell, after a sensational start to his Test career, spent too long in

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

regression. Both, however, are match-winners in their specialist field. Reeve should have played considerably more than 29 one-day internationals and Tufnell more than 22 Tests.

Reeve was considering retirement at the end of this season, even before the injury that is now likely to convince him. He is not the most supple of 33-year-olds and the callisthenics he routinely performs in mid-match are not done entirely for show. Long-term back problems have given way to a hip condition that refuses to heal, even after an injection. "I've got to have the joint scraped and that means two to three months out," he said. "I have to decide whether I will be able to play again and I won't be doing that hastily."

The odd thing is that there will be those in authority at Edgbaston not entirely mourning this development. Some members of the committee were agitating for Reeve's replacement as captain last year, even as his indefinable qualities of leadership were confounding more silverware for them to show off. This heresy was resisted, but Reeve, unarguably, can be a difficult man to govern and the enforced appointment of a new captain will be greeted by some with relief.

Tim Munton, the natural successor, is injured, too, and for the second time this summer. So, for the time being, the side will be led by Andy Moles. Reeve's legacy is a team struggling to stay within sight of their old supremacy, within a club preoccupied by a defective pitch that now presents a genuine threat to its Test match status.

Last September, of course, it was Middlesex who took Warwickshire to the wire in the championship thanks to the dramatic last wicket of Tufnell's ten against Leicestershire. Funny, that, for while Tufnell is continuing to take

wickets, it is now Leicestershire who are making headlines.

Middlesex, beset, like Warwickshire, by injuries to key players, could confront a fourth defeat today against Surrey. But Tufnell, even without his old mucker and motivator, John Emburey, is both bowling well and talking himself up as a mature 30-year-old. The selectors, it seems, are not listening.

In recent weeks, a number of spin bowlers have been mentioned by Raymond Illingworth, but only Min Patel has played. He is neither as innovative nor as skilful a bowler as Tufnell, and far less likely to influence a Test match. But the next in line is Ian Salisbury and, if not him, then Richard Stemp. Tufnell has too many touring endorsements to be considered for overseas duty again and, if there is not a long-term gain in picking him, perhaps the selectors are right.

There is irony, however, in the fact that while two champion clubs struggle and two talented, charismatic figures head, respectively, for retirement and disillusionment, a deeply unfashionable county is being swept into title contention by a largely unheard-of player.

Vince Wells was out for 197 on Saturday, and might regard it as a failure after making 200 in his previous championship innings and 201 in the NatWest Trophy. He is 30, the same age as Tufnell, and has been playing county cricket for nine years without emerging from the small print. In 76 first-class games before this season, he had managed two centuries. Now, if Leicestershire complete their probable win over Essex today, perhaps it will be Wells who is debated by amateur England selectors everywhere. But then again, mavericks make for better arguments.



Reeve: hip condition



Tufnell: bowling well

Mushtaq keeps secret weapon for Test

Simon Wilde on how the Pakistan leg spinner plans to unveil a mystery ball against England

Mushtaq Ahmed, Pakistan's cherubic leg spinner, is preparing a new delivery with which to torment England's batsmen when he meets them in the three-match Test series which begins at Lord's later this month. He was shown how to bowl the ball earlier this year by Shane Warne, the Australia leg spinner, with whom he has shared the secrets of their trade in the past.

Mushtaq, who has yet to employ the ball in a first-class match, was seen practising the delivery before play at Taunton last week. He was helped by Rob Turner, the wicketkeeper at Somerset, for whom Mushtaq took 225 wickets between 1993 and 1995 and where he returns in 1997 and 1998.

"His new delivery spirals in to the right-handed batsman from outside off stump through the air," Turner said. "On pitching, it does not break so much as carry on its path."

"Batsmen will find it very difficult to pick out," he said. "The hand action is identical to that for the leg break, so that will be of no help. By the time they realise which ball it is, it will be on them."

Two years ago, Brian Lara said Mushtaq presented a greater challenge than Warne because he possessed more variations. Asked at Taunton if he did not already possess enough deliveries which batsmen could not play, Mushtaq simply smiled in that disarming way of his and said: "One can never rest in this game. You have to keep looking for something new. I like to experiment."

According to one source, Mushtaq was planning to use the new ball in his first spell against Somerset but "got shy". In fact, he did not need it. By bowling his familiar repertoire beautifully on a pitch offering turn, Mushtaq



Mushtaq has a new delivery up his sleeve for the coming Test series

was more than a match for his former county teammates, taking five wickets — and adding five more in the second innings. Even Turner, with his insights into Mushtaq's methods, could not help twice losing his wicket to him cheaply.

However, provided that England's batsmen show more resolve than Somerset's when they play Pakistan in the Test matches, Mushtaq will surely test them out with his new delivery.

Mushtaq has made an other change to his bowling since he was last in England and that, too, is down to Warne. During Pakistan's tour of Australia last winter, Mushtaq noticed how straight Warne ran to the crease, while he himself had long come in at a sharp angle. By following Warne's lead,

Mushtaq found greater comfort bowling his stock leg break, which had previously put great strain on his back. It was a ball that his Pakistan and Somerset team-mates believed he bowled too infrequently.

"We got onto him last year to bowl fewer googlies and variations to his leg break," one Somerset player said. "Part of the reason was that it hurt his back, but he also got excited if he saw a turning pitch and tried too many variations when all he needed to do was bowl five stock balls an over."

Mushtaq so enjoyed bamboozling batsmen with his googly, though, that — even if he did not dismiss them — he was reluctant to use it less. The message got home partly by accident, after he had started falling away in delivering the googly. He was advised to bowl more leg breaks to get his action back and it was then, when the wickets came in even greater numbers, that he finally accepted the wisdom of his colleagues' words.

The reward for Mushtaq was not only 95 wickets for Somerset last season but also a recall to the Pakistan team for which he had previously achieved disappointingly little. This time he took 18 wickets in two Tests against Australia — after which Warne showed him the "mystery" ball — and ten wickets in a one-off Test against New Zealand.

Mushtaq readily acknowledges what county cricket has done for him, which is why he had no qualms about resigning with Somerset last week. "The main thing I have learnt in county cricket," he said, "is to be patient."

All this may sound like a strong argument in favour of the moratorium on overseas players in county cricket, but the failure of so many English players to learn how to play him may have more to do with Mushtaq's ability to keep on improving his game. At 26, he can only get better.

If England pay this summer for Mushtaq's latest modifications, it really ought to be the last of the foe Warne they should blame.

Brown stands by to swing into action

Ivo Tennant talks to an unassuming left-arm bowler whose yeoman efforts for Durham could earn overdue recognition from England

has, though, a record they would respect. In 4½ seasons, he has taken 286 first-class wickets for a side that is constantly at the foot of the championship table, and thus has earned such moments of relaxation as he can find. Durham have not won a match this summer, yet, on Saturday, Brown became the first bowler in the country to take 50 wickets.

It is hard for cricket followers in the North East to avoid concluding that, had Brown been playing for, say, Middlesex or Essex, he would have been chosen for England by now. He was close to being picked for a Test against Pakistan in 1992, Durham's first year in the championship, but Neil Mallender's greater experience was preferred. Four years on, the Pakistanis are back and once again Brown's name is mooted.

If the England selectors decide to continue to play a left-arm opening or first-change bowler, Brown will bear close comparison with Alan Mullally. The figures of the latter in this Test will ultimately decide the matter, but, presumably, thought will be given to Brown's form and, importantly, whether he has a greater ability to bring the ball back into the right-handers in addition to his natural slant across the bat.

This ability to swing the ball both ways is what has made Brown such a performer in county cricket. "I find that batsmen are more inclined to push out at the ball in case it comes into them," he said. "I can bring it back more often than not, sometimes gaining more rhythm in my second spell. I am naturally pretty fit

and have always got through my share of overs."

That is an understatement. Brown has carried Durham's attack this season, as indeed he has every season. It is extraordinary to think that he had four years with Northamptonshire and scarcely been an impression. He shrugs the memory away. "They had a very strong seam attack at the time and it was

hard to get into the side," he said. The experience constricted his ambitions, but he did benefit from the coaching of Dennis Lillee.

Or perhaps that is just his nature. He will bowl 25 or 30 overs in a day without complaint, but he is just as happy not playing. His wife hates the game and he is fond of his golf and his basketball, at which he had so much talent that he



Brown has carried the Durham attack with his consistent brand of brisk, left-arm bowling

was offered a sports scholarship in the United States when he was 15.

He has no great ambition to play Test cricket. Indeed, he has no great ambition at all. It is a part of his charm. When he left Northamptonshire, having been homesick away from his native North East, Brown nervously gave up the game. He would have done so had Durham not become a first-class county, falling back instead on his winter work as an electrician for the North East Electricity Board.

Whether or not this lack of ambition has counted against him, a perception that he has taken a goodly number of wickets on dodgy pitches in the North East certainly has done. Yet this season he has gained more wickets in other counties than he has at Chester-le-Street. The next-highest wicket-taker for Durham since they entered the county championship is John Wood, whose 111 represents less than half his tally.

Brown has sought his advice carefully. As well as learning from Lillee, he has been helped by John Lever — "the best of county bowlers day-in, day-out". There are similarities that extend beyond bowling left-arm over the wicket at much the same pace. Lever, too, thrived on long spells and did not play for England until he was 27, the age Brown is now.

"If you have had enough grounding, Test cricket is not quite such a step up as it is for bowlers who are rushed in," Lever said. "John Snow used to argue that you are at your strongest as a pace bowler between the ages of 27 and 32. There are four left-armers fighting for one place, but Simon has proved he is strong, can swing the ball and bowl at a brisk pace. The selectors know what he can do."

Edwards to come of age for England

ENGLAND'S women have turned to youth in an attempt to win the three-match series against New Zealand. For the third Test, which starts at Guildford on Friday, Charlotte Edwards, 16, an opening batsman, will become the youngest English woman to play Test cricket. Edwards's uncapped Cambridge teammate, Lucy Pearson, 24, is the other new face in the 12-strong party. Edwards, who also represents East Anglia, replaces Helen Plimmer, of Yorkshire, and Pearson, a left-arm medium-pace bowler, takes over from Jan Godman, who, like Plimmer, disappointed in the rain-ruined drawn second Test at Worcester.

Her hundred came off 226 balls and

included 15 boundaries. She had scored 115 and batted for just over five hours when she was well caught in the gully by Suzie Redfern off the bowling of Kathryn Leng.

Maia Lewis recorded her best Test score with a maiden half-century off only 57 balls. She hit ten fours, before Clare Taylor finally dismissed her wicket after she had been dropped four times.

SCORES: England 276 (J Smith 89, S Metcalfe 66, K Withers 6-73); New Zealand 256-6 (D Hooley 115, M Lewis 66). Match drawn.

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Gloucestershire v Glamorgan

BRISTOL (third day of four) Glamorgan have a first-innings lead of 328 over Gloucestershire.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 506 for 3 dec (M P Maynard 145 not out, S P James 116, H Morris 106; P A Cotter 101 not out).

GLoucestershire: First Innings 171

A J Knight c Maynard b Butcher 15
R J Cuffie b Walker 11
H C Hancock lbw b Butcher 18

R I Dawson c Shaw b Walker 11
A Symonds c Morris b Walker 11
M W Alverne c Shaw b Butcher 27

R C J Williams c Shaw b Walker 4
M C J Ball c Evans b Butcher 18
A M Smith not out 18

J Lewis c Croft b Butcher 10
* A Walsh c Maynard b Butcher 2

Extras (lb 7, nb 12) 19

Total (71.3 overs) 181

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-38, 3-54, 4-63, 5-83, 6-130, 7-145, 8-156, 9-171

* A Walsh c Maynard b Butcher 2

Extras (lb 7, nb 12) 19

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BOWLING: McGee 35-7-48-4; Headley 27-48-5-2; Preston 16-1-4-22; Fleming 14-3-7-1; Hooper 9-2-24-1; Stanford 3-1-5-0.

Second Innings

S L Campbell not out 9
S Hutton not out 1
Extras (lb 1) 1

Total (no wicket) 11

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-38, 3-54, 4-63, 5-83, 6-130, 7-145, 8-156, 9-171

Bonus points: Kent 4 Durham 6

Umpires: P T Lewis and R Palmer.

Lancashire v Worcestershire

OLD TRAFFORD (third day of four) Lancashire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 88 runs ahead of Worcestershire.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 392 (J E R Gale 140, G D Lloyd 59, VS Sotnicki 5-116).

Second Innings

S P Titchard not out 15
J E R Gale c Church b Ellis 10

M R Sherrin not out 10
G Chappell not out 0

Total (2 wickets) 26

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-28, 3-39, 4-40, 5-115, 6-171, 7-171, 8-171, 9-171

Worcestershire: First Innings 302 (J E R Gale 140, G D Lloyd 59, VS Sotnicki 5-116).

Second Innings

W P C Weston not out 17
M R Sherrin not out 10

T S Curtis b Withall 20
T M Moody c Titchard b Keedy 10

Extras (lb 1, w 1, nb 2) 14

Total (3 wickets dec, 95.2 overs) 350

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-28, 3-39, 4-40, 5-115, 6-171, 7-171, 8-171, 9-171

Bonus points: Lancashire 5 Worcestershire 8

Umpires: H D Bird and A A Jones.

Leicestershire v Essex

LEICESTER (third day of four): Essex, with six second-innings wickets in hand, are 88 runs behind Leicestershire.

ESSEX: First Innings 163 (G J Parsons 64, P D J Miles 4-1-28-1).

Second Innings

G A Gooch b Parsons 75
A P Grayson lbw b Simmons 19

S G Lee c Parsons b Simmons 35
P Hinch not out 10

Extras (lb 6, nb 4) 10

Total (4 wickets) 119

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-104, 3-184, 4-190

BOWLING: Miles 63-34-4; Parsons 15-64-1; Simmons 19-31-1; Grayson 19-6-1.

Leicestershire: First Innings 163 (G J Parsons 64, P D J Miles 4-1-28-1).

Second Innings

J V Wells b Ingham 19
D J McDermott c Law b Ingham 18

B P Smith c Stokes b Walters 4
P Simmons c Gooch b Parsons 10

Extras (lb 1, w 1, nb 1) 2

Total (5 wickets dec) 229

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-31, 3-82, 4-99, 5-119

J J Whistler c Lewis b Andrews 4
A Hebb lbw b Ingham 1

T P A Nibbs b Ingham 0
J A Mearns lbw b Grayson 108

M W Bence c Roberts b Grayson 11
A R K Person not out 11

S Bussell not out 11
Extras (lb 1, B 2, w 3, nb 34) 40

Total (5 wickets dec) 484

Score at 120 overs: 415-7

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-11, 3-19, 4-203, 5-204, 6-204, 7-361, 8-425, 9-430

BOWLING: Connor 16-2-22-0; Miles 10-7-1-1; Andrews 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; Ingham 10-7-1-1; Parsons 10-7-1-1; Simmons 10-7-1-1; Grayson 10-7-1-1; 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RACING: SANDOWN SECOND MAKES JOHNSTON-TRAINED COLT TOP THREE-YEAR-OLD IN EUROPE

Bijou D'Inde shines through Eclipse

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

BLIOU D'INDE is likely to repossess Halling in the Juddmonte International Stakes at York after earning top billing among the classic generation and a stallion valuation in excess of £2 million in a thrilling Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park.

Nigel Gray, the British Horseracing Board handicapper responsible for the middle-distance category, yesterday raised the Stuart Morrison-trained and Mark Johnston-trained colt by 4lb to a rating of 127 after he had failed by a neck to prevent Halling becoming only the fifth horse to win the group one race in successive years.

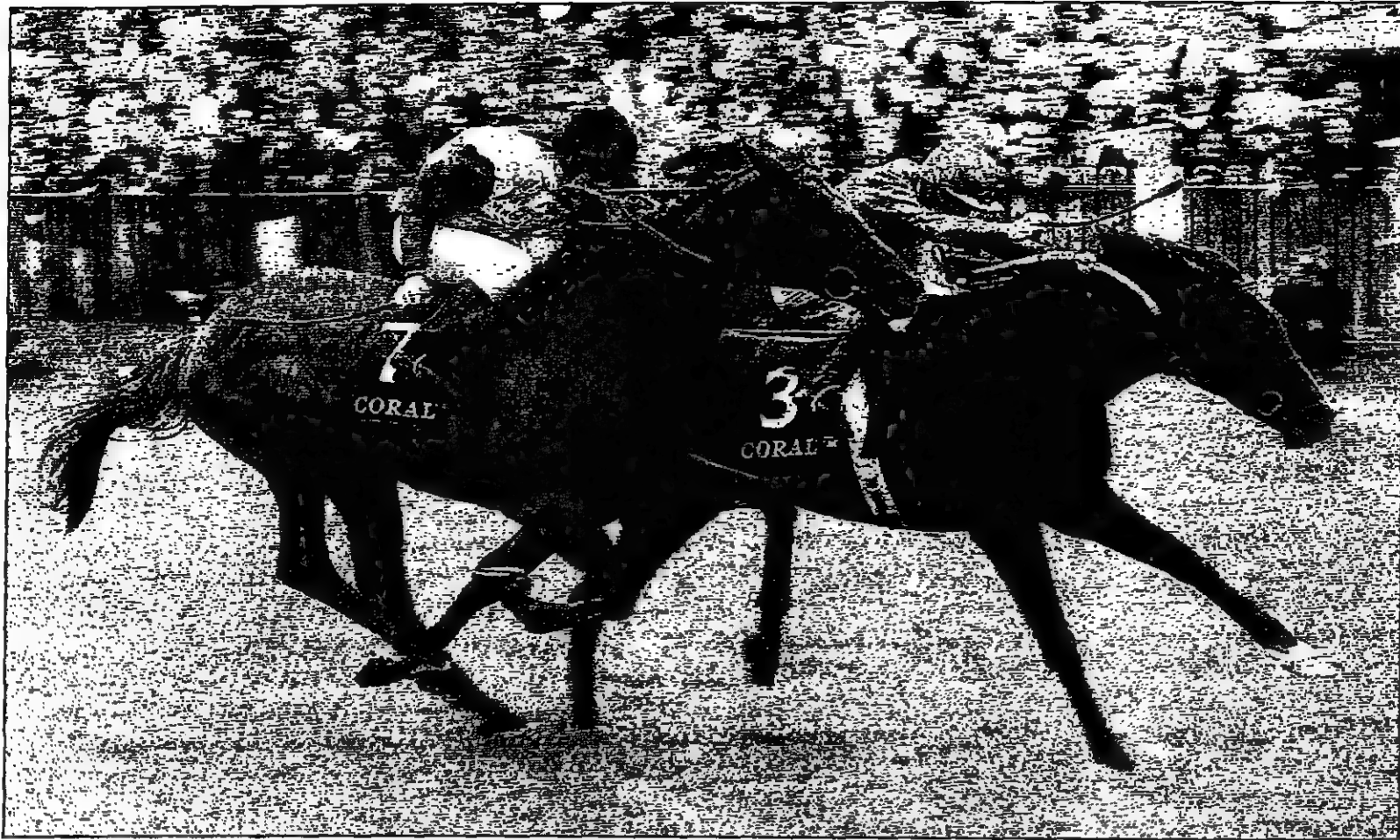
The official assessment, set against the mark of 123

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ARABIAN STORY
(7.35 Windsor)
Next best: QUESTIONNAIRE
(9.05 Windsor)

allocated to Shaamit, the Derby winner, and the 125 given to Zagreb for his runaway success in the Irish Derby, makes Bijou D'Inde the top rated three-year-old in Europe.

While Johnston was the first to acknowledge Halling's class, which enabled the Godolphin-owned five-year-old to quicken a second time when Bijou D'Inde made a threatening challenge a furlong out, he said the outcome would have been even closer with different riding tactics. "Jason [Weaver] should have come up the stands' side on the better ground. It is always difficult to beat a horse that is hanging into you. Anyone who says we were lucky in the St James's Palace Stakes would have to say we were unlucky in the Eclipse, although I am



Halling runs on strongly to hold the determined challenge of Bijou D'Inde in the Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park on Saturday

not complaining about either race."

After the doubts about the ability of the Royal Ascot winner to handle the easier ground and extra quarter-mile, Bijou D'Inde confounded the sceptics and in so doing opened up a world of options. "Before the Eclipse we had said there was nothing for him until the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot in September, but the Juddmonte International Stakes at York, where the track and the ground would suit us better, is now a distinct possibility. It is quite

likely we will repossess Halling."

The Breeders' Cup Mile, the original end-of-season target, may be reviewed as his proven stamina could open up other races at Woodbine, the Canadian venue. "We have a little bit of a dream about wintering in Dubai and going for the Dubai World Cup. If we go to the Breeders' Cup, Bijou D'Inde could then fly on to Dubai rather than coming home."

Morrison, the Glasgow solicitor who bought Bijou D'Inde for just 20,000 guineas

as a yearling, now finds himself in a most enviable position as would-be purchasers assess his value as a stallion.

Representatives of a British and an Irish stud had informal negotiations with Johnston last week about a possible purchase and, before Saturday, Morrison was thinking in terms of agreeing to a sale within the next week or two. Not surprisingly, the outcome of the Eclipse has prompted a change of heart. "After yesterday I think I will be keeping him until at least the end of the

season, although ultimately it is inevitable he goes. I can't keep a horse of that quality," Morrison said yesterday.

Johnston told Morrison before the 2,000 Guineas that his Cadeaux Genereux colt was better bred than Mister Bailey, who won the Newmarket classic for the Middleham trainer in 1994 and was subsequently sold for £1.3 million. Informal discussions had taken place last week with bloodstock agents about his possible value "but everything has changed dramatically now". He added: "We are not

trying to negotiate a sale. We don't put for sale signs outside stable doors but personally I would say his value is now considerably more than £1.5 million. I don't think we would sell him for less than £2 million."

Halling, unbeaten on turf since August 1994, will now be aimed at the top ten-furlong races in Europe, starting at York and continuing with the Irish Champion Stakes and the Dubai Champion Stakes, before possibly having a crack at the Breeders' Cup Turf over 1½ miles.

Godolphin plans future by investing in youth

The pillar-to-post victory of Halling at Sandown Park on Saturday means that Godolphin has now registered five group one or championship victories this season and won around £1.6 million in prize-money — and it is tempting to suggest "you ain't seen nothing yet".

No sooner had the Coral-Eclipse Stakes trophy been returned to the sideboard in Newmarket where it had been displayed for the previous 12 months, than a hint of what lies in store was given by Simon Crisford, the eloquent voice of the Sheikh Mohammed-inspired racing operation.

When the Dubai team set up camp in Newmarket for the first time in earnest last year, they relied almost exclusively on horses aged three and upwards as they made successful hit-and-run raids on the top races. This year there has been a subtle change in strategy. Many more runners have been sent out from their Moulton Park base, and those horses which have failed to come up to scratch have been given their P45s and dispatched back to Dubai without delay.

The reason for such ruthlessness is simple: to free as many boxes as possible for two-year-olds. Twenty of the 46 boxes at the Godolphin yard off the Bury Road are now given over to juveniles. "Two-year-olds will be the backbone of our organisation in future," Crisford said yesterday.

"There is an emphasis on trying to develop and bring through these horses to the race track, rather than hang-

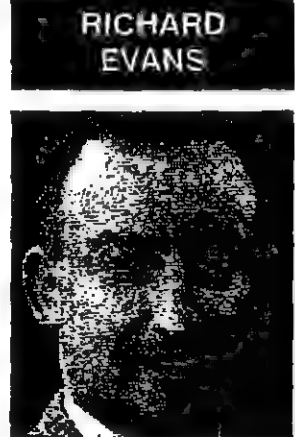
ing on older horses that are not going to do a job for us."

Newmarket trainers might shudder at those words, but the latest chapter in the Dubai experiment bodes well for British racing. The adventurous policy to throw a trio of two-year-olds into the deep end at Royal Ascot paid off handsomely with Shaamit winning the Chesham Stakes and the other two

What prompted the thought was the Racehorse Owners' Association (ROA) annual meeting last week, when the three made a heartfelt plea that any cut in betting duty should swell racing's prize-money, rather than being shared with punters in the shape of reduced deductions. There was even talk of an owners' "strike" to press home their case.

The ROA annual meetings are crucial affairs. The atmosphere is similar to that found at fringe meetings of the Conservative Party conference or at a well-attended Punch and Judy show. What happens does not always coincide with day-to-day reality.

It is not that I disagree with the need for Britain's internationally low levels of prize-money to be increased, but there was something slightly unreal, almost grotesque, about three of the wealthiest people in the land effectively saying the punter must contribute more towards the cost of their pleasure.

Richard Evans
Racing Commentary

running with credit in the Queen Mary and Coventry Stakes.

The most talented Godolphin juveniles are still under wraps but should make their debut later this month. If they prove themselves on the racecourse they will no doubt join Shaamit and line up for the autumn's best two-year-old races, which traditionally provide the clues to the next season's classics.

WINDSOR

THUNDERER
6.40 Premier League, 7.10 Victory Dancer, 7.35 Arabian Story, 8.05 Gentle Irony, 8.35 Sea Dancer, 9.05 Questionnaire.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 9.05 QUESTIONNAIRE (Nap).

GOING: GOOD DRAW: SF, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

6.40 BARRY AND SHEILA WAKES HANDICAP

(£3,453: 1m 21yds) (25 runners)
1 (1) 0020 TYPHOON BRIGHT 57 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
2 (2) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
3 (3) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
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7.10 MACKESON CONDITIONS

STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,339: 51yds) (7)
1 (1) 0020 TYPHOON BRIGHT 57 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
2 (2) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
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25 (25) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4

7.35 WHITFIELD LINDSAY STAKES

(£3,453: 1m 21yds) (13yds) (9)
1 (1) 0020 TYPHOON BRIGHT 57 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
2 (2) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
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13 (13) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4

7.45 BARRY AND SHEILA WAKES HANDICAP

(£3,453: 1m 21yds) (25 runners)
1 (1) 0020 TYPHOON BRIGHT 57 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
2 (2) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4
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25 (25) 0154 WINDSOR 58 (D) 5m 4-10-0 D Holland 4

7.55 BARRY AND SHEILA WAKES HANDICAP

(£3,453: 1m 21yds) (25 runners)
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7.55 BARRY AND SHEILA WAKES HANDICAP

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CYCLING: FIVE-TIMES TOUR DE FRANCE WINNER NOW HAS MOUNTAIN TO CLIMB

Induráin joins ranks of mere mortals

SIX days before Bastille Day, an unmistakable air of liberation hangs over the Tour de France. Yesterday, a time-trial up the mountains to Val d'Isère merely confirmed the revolution begun on the climb over the Col de Madeleine and up to Les Arcs the day before. Though the decline of their own champion, Laurent Jalabert, dampened French celebrations, Paris will no longer have to host a sixth procession led by Miguel Induráin.

Induráin will start the ninth stage today to Sestrière, another brutal, 4min 53sec behind the overall leader, Evgeni Berzin, in eleventh place, his hopes of a record-breaking sixth Tour win shattered by rivals who finally exposed a weakness in the Tour's greatest champion.

The deficit is not insuperable but, if the stage into Pamplona on July 17 is not to turn from a triumphant cavalcade into a funeral cortege, the Spaniard will need to respond swiftly to the challenge of old soldiers like Tony Rominger and Bjarne Riis and the young guns, Berzin, winner of the time-trial, and Peter Lutenberger. But attack has never been Big Mig's favoured form of defence.

Induráin did not suffer alone. The ambitions of the Once pair of Jalabert and Alex Zülle were blunted, the worst fears of Chris Boardman realised. Boardman recovered from a terrible battering on his Tour debut in the Alps with a highly creditable eighth in the time-trial but he is still half an hour adrift of the yellow jersey, his aims now limited to reaching Paris and winning one of the rolling stages between the Alps and the Pyrenees later this week.

To complete his anguish, Boardman returned to his room after the stage on Saturday to find that a watch worth £1,500, his wallet and wedding ring had been stolen from his suitcase. Ever the analyst, Boardman soothed his disappointment with science. His pulse was 152 flat out, he explained, 30 beats per minute below its normal maximum.

"I can see the potential for going better," he said, "but it's still a huge disappointment. I felt good at the start, then I just

ANDREW LONGMORE



On the Tour de France

ascent widely thought to be ideal for the big-bearded rhythm of Big Mig, provided more than the glimpse of an answer.

As a helicopter shot captured the familiar figure trailing up the final two miles to the mountain-top finish and close-up shots revealed lines on his tanned face drawn with a clarity unseen before, mouth panting for breath in the mountain air, the voice of the commentator rose to a shriek.

"Induráin en difficulté, ooh la, la, la, la." The surprise could not conceal his delight at the suffering of a champion. Watching the drama unfold from the television monitors, the press gasped as one, Induráin in difficulty? It could not be.

The suggestion from the Banesto camp was that their champion, who earned a 22-second penalty for taking a drink from his team car within the last 20 miles, was dehydrated. However much that lapse smacked of desperation, there were still good judges prepared to believe that Induráin, as he has so often before, was simply letting his rivals burn themselves out. Not once did the Spaniard climb out of the saddle to thrash the pedals.

"I know Miguel," Pedro Delgado, Induráin's mentor, said. "He will be strong again." Maybe. But Induráin's psychological hold on the Tour has been broken for good. No longer are the rest racing for second place.

Sensing that Induráin's Banesto henchmen could be divided and their leader isolated, the other teams launched a series of damaging attacks through the 124-mile stage. Riis, then Udo Boltz, Dufaux, Virenque and, decisively, the stage-winner, Luc Leblanc, each chipped away at Induráin's spirit until nothing was left and, when he flagged, Olano, Rominger and Berzin showed no mercy. By the finish, Induráin had lost 4min 19sec.

In his five victories, Induráin has never had to claw back such a deficit nor overcome such confident opposition. Boardman might reflect he was not the only one who left Les Arcs without his rightful possessions.



Berzin extends his lead in the Tour de France during yesterday's time-trial

TOUR DETAILS

SEVENTH STAGE (Chambery to Les Arcs, 122mi): 1. L. Leblanc (Fr, Polt) 57min 22sec; 2. T. Rominger (Switz, Megaf-GS) at 47sec; 3. P. Lutenberger (Austria, Cernia) at 50sec; 4. R. Virenque (Fr, Festina) same time; 5. L. Dufaux (Switz, Festina), same time; 6. A. Olano (Sp, Mapei-GS) same time; 7. B. Riis (Den, Telekom) at 55sec; 8. F. Escarot (Sp, Kelme) same time; 9. J. Urzain (Ger, Telekom) same time; 10. P. Ugrumov (Lat, Gewiss) same time; 11. V. Berzin (Russ, Gewiss) same time; 12. J. Pizzoli (It, Redi) at 2min 19sec; 13. B. Hamburger (Den, TTM) at 3:14; 14. A. Garmendia (Sp, Onco) at 3:28; 15. A. Zülle (Switz, Onco) at 3:28.

same time British: 47. C. Boardman (Gari) at 28:56; 142. M. Soudki (Motorola) at 37:24.

EIGHTH STAGE (Bourg-Saint-Maurice to Val d'Isère, 197mi): 1. Berzin 51min 53sec; 2. Riis at 55sec; 3. Olano, 4. Rominger 1:01; 5. M. Induráin (Sp, Banesto) at same time; 6. Urzain 1:07; 7. P. Lutenberger 1:35; 8. Boardman 2:30; 9. Zülle 2:34; 10. U. Boltz (Ger, Telekom) 2:52; 11. Leblanc 3:09; 12. Virenque 3:25; 13. Garmendia 3:28; 14. Dufaux 3:31; 15. P. Jonker (Aus, Onco) 3:37; 16. J. Bruyneel (Bel, Rabobank) 3:41; 17. Ugrumov 3:45; 18. Escarot 3:48; 19. G. Guarnita (It, Polt) 4:13; 20. M. Fernandez (Sp, Mapei-GS) at 4:26.

4:26 British: 104. Soudki 9:12. Leading overall standings (after eight stages): 1. Berzin 41hr 29min 45sec; 2. Riis at 43sec; 3. Olano 45.4; 4. Rominger 1:08.3; 5. Urzain 1:37; 6. Lutenberger 2:35; 7. Virenque 3:52; 8. Dufaux 4:05; 9. Ugrumov 4:25; 10. Escarot 4:52; 11. Induráin 4:53; 12. Zülle 5:06; 13. Garmendia 5:52; 14. Leblanc 7:27; 15. Hamburger 7:38; 16. Boltz 8:45; 17. V. Berzin (Russ, Rabobank) 9:41; 18. Pizzoli 9:53; 19. Fernandez 10:17; 20. Bruyneel 10:29; British: 39. Boardman 30:44; 72. Soudki 46:55.

TODAY: Ninth stage: Val d'Isère to Sestrière, 141km.

Essex schools take honours in athletics cup

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

SPORT



IN SCHOOLS

If success in track and field is your aim, it probably pays to be educated in Essex. That much-maligned county may be better known for bad perms, boob tubes and boy-racer motorists but, on Saturday, Essex boys and girls dominated the TSB English Schools track and field cup final in Gateshead.

So it was that the spiritual home of British athletics — well, at least the backyard of Brendan Foster, Steve Cram, Jonathan Edwards *et al* — was forced to applaud a near-Exsex monopoly. It almost seemed on a par with West Ham United crossing the River Tyne and beating Newcastle United 3-1 at St James' Park.

Talking of football, there were plenty of Newcastle and Sunderland replica shirts on view as spectators cheered on the 48 teams vying for top honours. Those 48 had been invited only after a pruning process had whittled down an original entry of 2,125 teams from 750 schools.

Fitzwilliam School, Essex, took four teams up the Mill and AJ and were rewarded with victory in the intermediate (under-16) girls category, where they saw off strong challenges from St Hilda's, Liverpool, St Albans Girls School and Cooper's School, Upminster.

Essex pride in the junior (under-14) girls' sphere was sustained by Southend GS, who beat locals from Newcastle Central High in to second place.

Central High's brother school, Newcastle Royal Grammar, had, along with Ponteland High, nurtured high hopes in the male events, but, instead, the junior boys' tide went to Thomas More, from Wood Green, London, with Greensward School, Hockley, and William Edwards School, Grays, finishing second and third respectively.

Kentish honour was upheld by the intermediate boys, where Ravenswood School, Bromley, emerged triumphant, finishing in front of King Edward VI, from Aston, Birmingham.

On a day characterised by fugal, indifferent weather, the frustrating combination of sunny intervals and cloud-covered interludes were countered by some consistently pleasing athletic performances as each team member competed in two events from either track and field, field and relay, or track and relay.

Their individual scores contributed to each side's overall result and standing. All had slogged their way through several of those gruelling preliminary rounds and fully deserved a slice of the glamour inevitably associated with an appearance at Jonathan Edwards's home training ground and a leading British athletics venue.

Some competitors will, no doubt, be dreaming of emulating Edwards and aspiring to international status. Almost all are preparing to tune their televisions into BBC's Olympic coverage, ready to watch personal idols pursue glory in Atlanta. Perhaps by 2000, one or two might even be competing for Britain in Sydney.

Rather more immediately, several had a night on the Toon to look forward to. Indeed, that Essex contingent probably felt at home out celebrating on Saturday night. Wandering around Newcastle's trendy Bigg Market area after 7pm, the lasses are out in force, no doubt on the look out for boyfriends with go-faster stripes down the side of their cars.

Schools results, page 35

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION

Go for gold in Atlanta

Your chance to win a VIP trip to the Olympics

STARTING today *The Times*, in association with Motorola UK Paging Subscriber Division, is offering you the chance to win a holiday for two to see the Olympic Games live in Atlanta.

The winner of our competition and a partner will be flown to Atlanta to spend four nights at the luxury five-star Evergreen Hotel in Stone Mountain. They will also receive two Olympic event tickets for each day. Five runners-up will receive prizes of Motorola Alphanumeric Pagers.

The 1996 Olympic Games, which takes place from July 19 to August 4, will be the largest peace-time event in the 20th century with more than 10,000 athletes from 197 nations taking part. Millions more will tune in to watch the live coverage on television.

Essential to the success of the Games is wireless communications. Motorola, a partner-level sponsor of the Games, and active at various levels of Olympic sponsorship since 1972, has been a primary catalyst in the development of wireless communications for the Olympic movement with its state-of-the-art, digital two-way radio network. It will be the largest, most sophisticated two-way radio network ever employed at an athletic event. In addition,

Motorola has supplied 6,000 Alphanumeric pagers, 1,500 cellular phones, 1,500 computer modems and secure two-way communications equipment, all of which will be used throughout the Games, meeting the diverse communications needs of each event venue.

Motorola UK Paging Subscriber Division has also supplied members of the Olympic British Athletics team with Alphanumeric Pagers. Jamie Baulch, one of the 4x400m relay runners, is using his pager both for work and play, keeping himself in contact with fellow team mates, friends and family.

Alphanumeric Consumer Pagers are the latest way to keep in touch with no connection or call charges. They are fast becoming a lifestyle

accessory with more and more people using the technology to keep in constant contact with friends on the move rather than solely for business purposes.



Jamie Baulch of the 4x400 British Olympic relay team, going for gold with his Motorola pager



MOTOROLA

Official Sponsor of the 1996 Olympic Games



HOW TO ENTER

You will need to collect three of the six tokens which will be printed in *The Times* this week. Token one appears below. Attach the tokens to the entry form with your answer to the question which appears on the form and post your entry to arrive by first post Wednesday July 17 to the given address. The winner will be the first name selected at random from all correct entries received by the closing date. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

THE TIMES-OLYMPIC MOTOROLA COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Send this form with three tokens to the address below with your answer to the question:

Where will the Olympic Games be held in the year 2000?

a) Sydney ☐ b) Canberra ☐ c) Brisbane ☐

Post to: The Times/Motorola Olympics Competition, PO Box 8382, London SE7 7ZG. The closing date is Wednesday July 17, 1996.

Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms First name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Day Tel (inc STD code) _____

It would help us if you answered these four questions:

Which of the following age groups do you fall into? (Please tick box)

☐ 1) 15-24 ☐ 2) 25-34 ☐ 3) 35-44 ☐ 4) 45-54 ☐ 5) 55-64 ☐ 6) 65+

Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (4-6 copies) during the week?

Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy occasionally (3 copies or less) during the week?

Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (2-4 copies a month)?

If you do not wish to receive mailings of offers or services from The Times or Motorola, carefully selected by Times Newspapers Limited please tick this box ☐



Sally Jones introduces her children to short-tennis, and meets some of the hopeful stars of the future

The road to the Centre Court, in short steps

With Wimbledon all but over, the tennis courts in every public park in the land are, for a week or two, crowded with would-be champions: from plump middle-aged chaps with ancient wooden Dunlop Maxplys, to seven-year-olds whacking spongy balls with plastic rackets.

For most, the craze is soon over and then the rackets go back in the cupboard for another year.

Since the early 1980s, however, a revolution has been taking place in schools, clubs and leisure centres, to encourage more youngsters to take up tennis via a simplified, cut-down version of the game, known as short-tennis.

It was in this game as a thin, determined eight-year-old that Tim Henman, the new British hero, won his first national championship. Since then it has brought in tens of thousands of children from non-tennis playing backgrounds and kept their interest as they progress from short-tennis to the real thing.

I decided to initiate my two children, five-year-old Roly and Madeline, three, at the beginning of the summer at our nearest venue, the picturesque Warwick Boat Club, beside Warwick Castle. The session, which attracted about a dozen children, aged between five and seven, was run by club members Sue Lennox and Gill Thorpe, whose own children started with short-tennis.

It seemed at first sight like a party game, with the youngsters split into two teams and sprinting backwards and forwards in noisily, highly-competitive potato races to improve their speed and agility, then scurrying up and down with the ball balanced on the racket.

Next, they stood in a circle, gently hitting a low-bouncing, pressureless ball with their small, loosely-strung rackets for the child opposite to catch at waist height after one bounce. The drill became slightly more complex when each receiver was asked to catch the ball on the face of the racket.

"At this stage," Lennox said, "we're simply trying to build up the children's hand-eye co-ordination — and giving them a lot of fun."

The fun element was never in doubt, even though Roly, in headstrong mood, insisted on demonstrating the "big front-hand" he had learnt in the



back garden, whacking the ball straight at the child opposite.

Lennox tactfully distracted him by enlisting his help in setting out the low nets, with their mobile posts and light netting across the two small rectangular courts, minus tramlines and simply divided down the middle.

After practising forehands and backhands in a group, the children formed two lines behind the baseline and were each fed a few groundstrokes, scoring one point for any shot that went over the net and two if it landed in court.

Even Madeline, swinging wildly at a gently-thrown ball, managed to hit a forehand for the first time and swelled with pride when she was awarded two points. By contrast, Lucy Tedstone and her friend Andrew Frost, both six, hardly missed a shot and after only a handful of sessions already looked capable of moving up into the more advanced group where the children begin to play simple games against one another.

"It's brilliant," Lucy said, "I love being in a group and playing lots of different games. My family are quite sporty and I can keep a rally going now — just about. I've made some new friends, too."

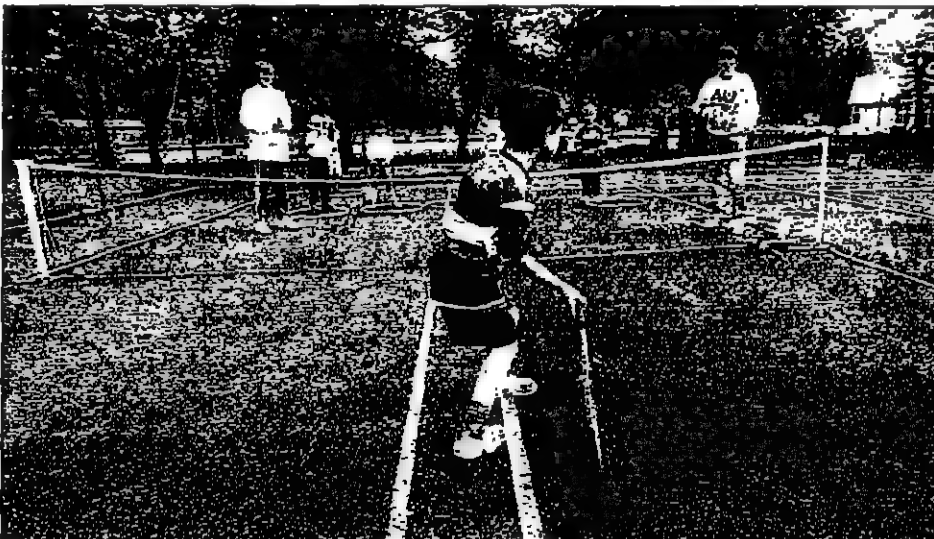
"I look forward to it every week," said William Homer, 5, another regular. "The first time I got a ball over the net I felt great."

Three children then stood inside hoops on the baseline of each court and tried to catch the groundstrokes hit by the children on the other side of the net. A catch after one bounce gave the catcher the right to change places with the hitter during this drill, which is designed to improve both accuracy and co-ordination.

Only Roly, thrilled to have played his first double-handed backhand on court, refused to change ends when caught



Tennis without tears... children at the net at Warwick Boat Club. To lessen the physical strain, nets are low, the court is reduced and rackets are loosely strung



Serving... children are involved in competition, but the emphasis is always on fun

"out" and insisted on being fed more groundstrokes, crowing with delight whenever he made contact.

By the end of the 45-minute session, the children reluctantly gathered up the scores of balls littering the court ("I want three balls in the box from everyone by the time I count ten"). The older children assembled for the more advanced session, several of them training for tournaments that give youngsters their first taste of competition well before they can master the basics of "proper" tennis.

To most youngsters, tennis itself is a frustratingly difficult game in the early stages. Even sustaining a rally is impossible without a modicum of skill and strength.

By contrast, short-tennis is a simple, accessible but realistic version of tennis and is growing rapidly in popularity. More than 200,000 children now play regularly and more than 70 per cent of the crop competing in the national age-group championships progressed to the full-scale game via short-tennis.

"Our kids here really love it," Lennox said. "They're so enthusiastic and several, including one of my sons, have gone on to area or county coaching in tennis itself."

As if to prove the point, Roly, as ever unhampered by false modesty, accused the biggest eight-year-old in the advanced group, "I'm good at tennis," he announced proudly. "I think I'll stay on and play with you."

MAKING A START IN SHORT-TENNIS



SHORT-TENNIS was developed in Sweden in the 1970s and was so successful in channelling a crop of accomplished young tennis players into tennis proper that it rapidly spread to the rest of Europe. It is now an important breeding ground for future champions. The LTA introduced it with a pilot scheme in 1980 and then broadened it to the whole country the following year.

Many clubs, schools and leisure centres run short-tennis sessions for children, aged between about five and nine. They will need pumps or trainers and loose-fitting clothing,

usually T-shirts and shorts or tracksuits, but most centres do not insist on white clothes and will usually lend a suitable mini racket, until the child acquires his own (these can cost from £15). Dozens of low-pressure balls for the drills and games are also supplied.

Sessions, which are usually open to non-members and vary between 45 minutes and an hour in length, can cost up to £2 per child, although many are far cheaper than this.

Warwick Boat Club offers a course of ten sessions for £6 and has recruited dozens of children from non tennis-playing backgrounds as a result.

To find out where your nearest centres are, contact Short-Tennis Department, The LTA, Queen's Club, West Kensington, London W14 9EG (0171-381 7059).

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Paul Hackett's team convincingly won their Premier league match against Sower. This hand was a rare gain for Sower. How do you think South managed to go down in Six Spades?

Dealer South	Love all	IMPs
♠ 10 8 6 ♥ A K 10 ♦ A 7 6 ♣ K Q J	♠ A 8 4 ♥ 9 7 4 3 ♦ K J 10 8 ♣ 9 4	♠ 10 8 6 ♥ A K 10 ♦ A 7 6 ♣ K Q J

Contract: Six Spades by South. Lead: three of diamonds

Tony Forrester won the lead in dummy and continued with the jack of spades. When that held the trick he thought he might have caught East napping. He continued with a diamond ruff, a club to the king, the ace of hearts and another diamond ruff. He then crossed to dummy with a club, leaving this position:

♠ 10 8 6 ♥ K 10 ♦ — ♣ —	♠ A 8 4 ♥ 9 7 4 3 ♦ K J 10 8 ♣ 9 4	♠ 10 8 6 ♥ A K 10 ♦ A 7 6 ♣ K Q J
----------------------------------	---	--

By now the defence's carding had convinced Forrester that West had length in diamonds. In that case, if the trumps were 2-2, East was more likely to have the queen of hearts.

So Forrester decided to play East for having started with ace doubleton of spades. He played a club — that would only cost if East had started with two and had A x of spades left. If the club had held up, Forrester planned to put East in with a second spade to lead into the heart tenace, or give a ruff and discard.

Alas, East ruffed and Forrester was one down — a feat that only a top-class player could have accomplished. Forrester might have reflected that if East had been looking at A x of spades and the queen of hearts, he would have risen on the first round of spades to avoid the endplay. Senior said Forrester had only played that way to get his name in the papers. Well, he's succeeded, hasn't he?

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SEMIBOUSY

- a. Half drunk
- b. A short blouse
- c. A hiccup

SMITHAM

- a. A fine particle
- b. A forge
- c. Charlock

SCHADON

- a. The iambic caesura
- b. A bee larva
- c. A musical tailing-off

SOULE

- a. A joint
- b. A shoemaker's anvil
- c. A pedestal

Answers on page 41

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Manchester win

The team from Manchester Grammar School has won this year's Times British Schools chess championship. They defeated their co-finalists Maidstone Grammar School by the score of 3.5 to 2.5 in the final held on Friday at London's Charing Cross Hotel.

Results of the third place play-off and games from both matches will appear in subsequent articles.

Never say die

By drawing game 15 and winning game 16, Gata Kamsky has kept his slim chances alive in the Fide world championship.

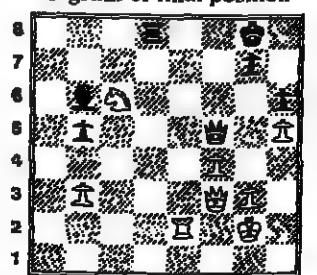
White: Gata Kamsky
Black: Anatoly Karpov

Fide world championship
Elista. Game 16, July 1996

Queen's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	b6
4	g3	Bb7
5	b3	Bb4+
6	Bb2	Be7
7	Bg2	c5
8	Bc3	c5
9	Ne5	Nd7
10	Nxd7	Nxd7
11	Nd2	O-O
12	O-O	Rc8
13	e4	c5
14	exd5	exd5
15	de5	de4
16	c6	cxb3
17	Rf1	Bb5
18	axb3	Bxc6
19	Bxc6	Rxc6
20	Ra7	Bd3
21	Nc4	Bxc3
22	Rxd7	Qf5
23	Rd4	Cf5
24	Rf4	Cx6

Diagram of final position



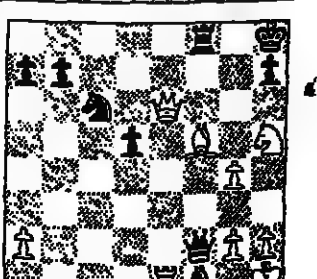
On move 21 Black could have played 21... Rxc3 but then 21 Nbl Rxf7 22 Rxc7 Qxc7 23 Rxc7 gives White the advantage. Interestingly, Karpov admitted to having analysed this variation before the game up to the 25th move, concluding that the position was equal. However, in his pre-game analysis Karpov had overlooked the combination 25 Rxd7 and if 25... Rxf7 26 Qd8+ forcing checkmate.

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Berg — Nordstrom, Norway 1978. In this position, Black has a terrible threat of mate by playing ... Qxg2 next move. White has no good way to defend against this and so must resort to a swift attack himself. What did he play?



Solution, page 41

At full speed ahead

The cyclist and runner Josie Heffernan is on top of the world



Heffernan trains with her daughter Emily

There seems no end to the talents of Josie Heffernan. A former competitor in the world cycling championships, she is now a veteran long-distance runner of rare distinction.

She trains for both sports while juggling four part-time jobs with four children. Josie, 45, is also a member of Christians in Sport.

She was the second runner home in the world 25 kilometre road race in Bruges ten days ago, having been inspired to return to athletics when a member of The Times team for the 1994 London Marathon. It was the team spirit of that event — when the newspaper picked two teams, one advised by Chris Brasher and the other by Mel Barry, from more than 500 applicants — that once again has Heffernan out on the roads. However, this time she was running, not cycling.

Her background on her bike has unquestionably helped her in athletics. "When I was 14 there was a clash between a cycling race and an inter-schools athletics event. My Dad told me that I had to make up my mind between the two. I opted for cycling."

Josie rode for Britain in four world championships. After giving birth to her first two children, Neil, 17, and Mark, 14, she tried triathlon in the 1980s but suffered so

badly from hypothermia in the swim section that she got pleurisy. "I was so ill that I thought I was going to die." Triathlon has subsequently allowed wet-suits to be used.

When she and her husband, Steve, a bronze medal-

winner in the professional pursuit at the world cycling championships, moved to Seer Green in Buckinghamshire five years ago, she was too busy working as a teacher and bringing up her two youngest children, Naomi, 8,

and Emily, 6, to do any exercise.

She says: "I was getting unhappy with myself. Then came the chance of running the London Marathon. To be honest, I did not do enough distance work and hated the second half."

However, she still had enough talent to ensure that she did 3hr 45min. "I was also determined that having got to that level I was not going to give up. I wanted to do shorter distances, like 10 kilometres."

She kept training between her varied jobs as a youth worker, a gymnastics coach for under-fives, a schools liaison officer for the Persil Fun Fit scheme and an administrator for the Children's Christian training programme.

Two weeks ago, she ran at the world veterans championships in Bruges, both in the ten-kilometre road race, in which she finished sixth in her age category, recording 38min 33sec, and then, the next day, in the 25 kilometres, when she did 1hr 43min 02sec.

"I was overwhelmed by my performance, but I was dying towards the end," she said. "I felt as if I was standing still." It is not an experience that someone as active as Josie often feels.

JOHN GOODBODY

BOXING: RETIREMENT TALK PREMATURE DESPITE LISTLESS DISPLAY

Benn lacks conviction in and out of the ring

By SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

THE position of Nigel Benn as a serious world contender was in some doubt after his challenge for Steve Collins's World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title in Manchester on Saturday.

Immediately after the bout ended in the fourth round, because Benn was unable to continue as a result of an ankle injury, he announced that he was retiring.

It was reminiscent of his defeat by Thulane Malinga, of South Africa, in Newcastle, when Benn retired immediately after the contest and came back the next day. This time his change of mind, or rather, half change of mind, came just 20 minutes later.

He told the full house of 20,000 at the Nynex Arena and viewers of Sky Television: "I think this is it for me. Thanks to all my fans but I know when I have to stop." Then, after a shower and brush-up, he told the press: "My fiancée wants me to retire, my dad wants me to

retire. I will go home and think about it. I know I can beat him. They say I'm finished but I still have a lot of fight left in me."

There was no urgent reaction when a rematch was mentioned, nor did Frank Warren, the promoter, attempt to draw him out on the subject. "I'm not going to ask him to fight," Warren said. "If he wants to fight, he must decide."

Benn continued: "My fiancée, Caroline, is expecting twins. That means a lot to me, more than fighting. I'm going to sit down and think about it. When the babies are born I would like to be the champion. We'll talk and talk and talk and if, at the end of it, I do retire, I can say what a blinding career I've had and I shouldn't feel sad."

It was strange to see a fighter who likes nothing better than a "tear up" hesitating about his next move, but it would be surprising if he did not come back. He received

£800,000 for his night's work. The 20,000 spectators who had cheered him wildly would return to see him pick up another £800,000 or so. But even Benn will have to do better next time to keep their allegiance. As Benn himself said: "If you go out a loser, you are soon forgotten."

His performance was the worst of his career. It was

Results 35

sloppy and lacked purpose. When he turned his ankle, the excruciating pain seemed to wipe out all desire of becoming a world champion again. He accepted the mishap without a murmur. His boxing had no co-ordinating strategy. He was fighting on instinct. He resorted to wild swings which set up attacks and, time after time, found himself in a wrestling match. Twice he missed and fell over.

I made the first two rounds

even and gave Benn the third. The judges did not give Benn a round. In the third, he caught Collins with four solid punches, two rights and two lefts. Even though the punches seemed to have little effect on the champion, the contest was just beginning to develop.

The champion said afterwards that he did not feel the punches. When his cornermen cautioned him against fighting Benn's fight he said: "He is not hurting me at all. I'm enjoying it. I'm going to go out and knock him out."

Benn appeared to be winning the fourth when he swung round with a punch and went down on his right ankle. There was no count as he had not gone down from any blow. Benn got up and tried in vain to put his weight on that foot in order to be able to ward off the blows that Collins was now piling in. Then, suddenly, Benn turned his back on Collins, waved his arms in the air and limped off back to his corner.



Collins, the champion, has Benn in trouble during the truncated world title bout in Manchester on Saturday

Grand design wins battle for Leeds United

By JASON NISSE

LAST Tuesday afternoon, the four-man board of Leeds United met to decide which one of three offers for the FA Carling Premiership club should be accepted. Would it be the media mianows, Caspian, the Le Coq Sportif group, Conrad, or, coming in with a bid as late as a tackle by Vinnie Jones, the Norwegian fish giants, Resource Group International (RGI)? In the end, Caspian, the long-time favourite, got the nod, but the losers feel that the bid process left more than a little to be desired.

The deal has yet to go through, but, with the outgoing Leeds chairman, Leslie Silver, and incoming Leeds chairman, Bill Fotherby, accepting the deal, Caspian is assured of 79 per cent of the club's shares. The 250 minority shareholders in Leeds can either like it or lump it.

The trouble is that Caspian

George Graham, and is still shunned by Fifa, football's world governing body, he would not be that popular at the Football Association.

Yet what reason was there to run down Conrad's offer, especially as the company was promising to put another £15 million or so into Leeds? It appears that Silver and Fotherby were dazzled by the grand designs and vision of the Caspian chairman, Chris Akers.

Akers, 31, is a City whiz-kid who made his name brokering cable television and sporting rights deals. He wants to turn Leeds into the sort of sporting club that exists in Barcelona and is planned by Sir John Hall at Newcastle, but with added multimedia, leisure and retailing ideas. The concept is for you to turn off the motorway into Elland Road on any day of the week and find entertainment — be it football, ice hockey, basketball, rugby league, the cinema, a disco, a bowling alley or even Gary Barlow in concert.

To do this, Akers needs money. Leeds's turnover in the 1995-96 season was £18.8 million, of which £8.6 million came from gate receipts and the rest largely from merchandising and television rights. Thanks to the new deal with BSkyB (40 per cent owned by News International, which owns *The Times*) this income is set to soar to more than £25 million this year and well in excess of £30 million in 1997-98.

There is a break clause in the BSkyB deal that will allow clubs to negotiate their own pay-per-view television deals come the summer of 1999. According to some quite excitable research, this could lead to annual income of more than £2 billion for the Premiership — or an average of £100 million each for the individual clubs. With TelePiù in Italy and Canal Plus in France launching pay-per-view football coverage this year, this revolution is not so far away.

It is easy to see how Akers's vision tempted Silver and co. The trouble is they did just the sort of under-the-cover deal that has haunted football over the years. A deal that heralds a new era with one of the last hurrahs of the old.

THE BUSINESS OF SPORT



is offering only £16.5 million for Leeds. This looks cheap given that Manchester United is worth more than £230 million. Tottenham Hotspur is priced at £100 million and, after admitting its flotation intentions last week, Newcastle United is looking at a valuation of more than £100 million. It seems especially cheap once you know that Conrad offered £20 million for Leeds and RGI, which owns another football club, Molde, in Norway, is claiming that it offered £30 million (though this figure is disputed by Leeds insiders).

One can hardly blame Leeds for turning RGI away. Whereas the other two bidders had talked for weeks and delivered lots of documents, RGI turned up with one sheet of paper and a chap called Rune Hauge. As he was the agent who was so generous to the former Arsenal manager,



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BIRMINGHAM 168 804	WALSLEY 168 826	
BIRMINGHAM 168 802	WALSLEY 168 800	
BIRMINGHAM 168 801	WALSLEY 168 800	

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Low & Bonar, A.G. Barr.
 Finals: Bucknell Group, Fifth Holdings, Kenwood Appliances, Ivory & Sims, Northern Investors, Raxmore, Shield Diagnostics, Tomkins.
 Economic statistics: UK June producer prices, US May consumer credit, US Treasury auction of short-term Treasury bills, Japan May current account.

TOMORROW

Interims: Eurocamp, P&P.
 Finals: Birse Group, Budgens, Dudley Group, Jenkins Group, Farepak, Glaxo Mew, John Menzies, Morris Ashby, Real Time Control, Universal Salvage, VHE Holdings, Wood John D & Co.
 Economic statistics: UK May cyclical indicators, UK May new construction orders, UK Treasury summer economic forecast, US Mitsubishi weekly store sales, US May wholesale inventories, US Johnson redbook weekly chainstore sales, German June unemployment.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: M&W.
 Finals: Dixons Group, FT Group, Matthew Clark, Stanley Leisure, VTech Holding.

THURSDAY

Interims: First Choice Holidays, Kleinwort Charter, Shant Group, Trust of Property Shares.
 Finals: Caledonian Media Comms, Colefax & Fowler, GGT Group, Hampson Industries, Heiton Holdings, Peel Holdings, Phonelink, Ransom (Wim) & Son.
 Economic statistics: UK June retail price index, US June Atlantic Fed survey, US weekly jobless claims report, French April current account balance.

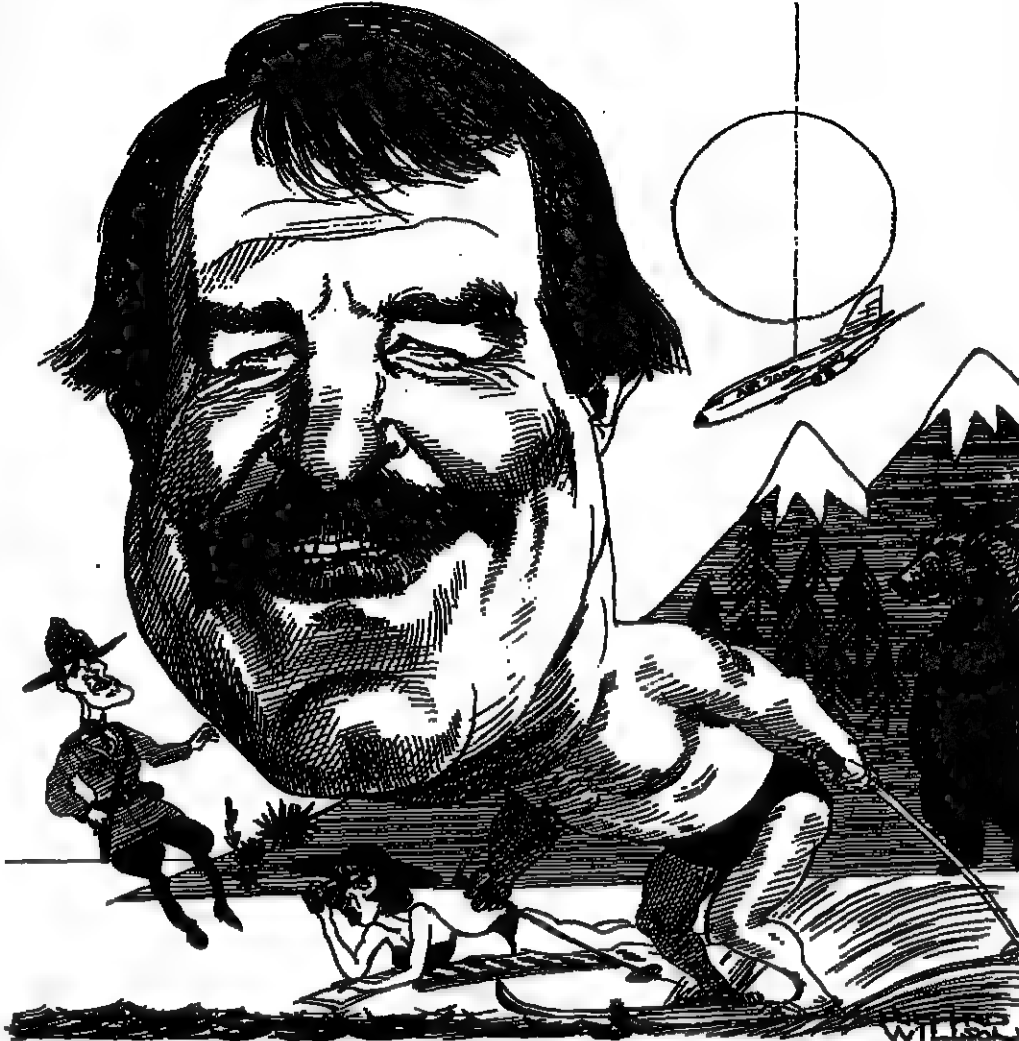
FRIDAY

Interims: Olin Convertible Trust.
 Finals: British Bloodstock.
 Economic statistics: UK Confederation of British Industry June distributive trades survey, US June producer prices index, US retail sales, US June Atlanta Fed survey, French June provisional consumer prices index.

COMPANIES

KAREN ZAGOR

Dixons plugs into soaring profits



Francis Baron of First Choice, which is gearing up for a summer holiday price war

DIXONS GROUP: The future looks bright for Dixons, the electrical goods retailer that owns Dixons, Currys, PC World and The Link mobile phone chain. Brokers are expecting healthy profits when the group turns in its full-year results on Wednesday.

Dixons's interim result have already revealed that the group weathered the all-important Christmas selling season in good shape.

Growth has been particularly strong at PC World, where NatWest Securities has forecast a 24 per cent jump in like-for-like sales to £225 million for the year. The group is about to embark on a £100 million expansion programme over two years, led by PC World and The Link, creating up to 4,000 new jobs.

Pre-tax profits are expected to soar 38 per cent to £138 million with earnings per share rising to 23.2p from 16.6p. The net dividend is expected to show a 7.2 per cent rise to 8.5p.

The projections take into account the fact that Dixons is facing lower margins on warranties. Over the past year, the company has come under sustained criticism over its extended warranties, which have been very lucrative for the group.

JOHN MENZIES: The bleak side of retailing is expected to be at the fore when John Menzies reports its full-year results on Tuesday. Analysts at SBC Warburg are expecting pre-tax profits to decline to £35 million from £38.1 million in 1995. Predicted earnings per share stand at 40p, down from 44.6p. The dividend, however, is expected to rise to 13.8p from 13.2p.

The erosion will come as little surprise. In January, when the retailer and newspaper distributor reported its interim figures, it gave warning that the full-year performance would disappoint. At the time, the company blamed the erosion on less profitable contracts with publishers.

Looking ahead, Menzies stands to benefit from new Nintendo hardware, as Menzies has an exclusive contract with Nintendo. But the company is facing the threat of supermarkets moving into the profitable area of magazine retailing.

TOMKINS: The market has high hopes for an improvement at the industrial conglomerate in

the wake of Tomkins's \$1.4 billion acquisition of Gates, the privately owned US automotive and industrial components group. Any change, however, will come too late to affect Tomkins's full-year earnings, which are due out today. Analysts were disappointed when Tomkins issued a forecast of pre-tax profits in the £320 million range. UBS is looking for pre-tax profits of £323 million, up

7 per cent, with similar gains in earnings per share to 18.7p. Dividends are expected to rise 15 per cent to 9.95p. The results reflect a grim winter in North America, which had a particularly negative impact on sales at Murray, its lawnmower manufacturer.

STANLEY LEISURE: The popularity of the National Lottery is

taking its toll on Stanley Leisure, Britain's fourth-biggest bookmaker, which reports its full-year figures on Wednesday. At the half-way mark, pre-tax profits were down nearly 20 per cent at £6.1 million. Analysts are looking for profits of about £14.5 million for the full year, with earnings per share in the 18p to 18.6p range and dividends of about 6.5p. Last year the hot summer kept punters out of the betting shops. This year the company should benefit from wetter weather, a one-point drop in betting tax and the introduction of fruit machines into betting shops.

FIRST CHOICE: With the holiday price wars for summer 1997 already heating up, First Choice, the third biggest package holiday company, is expected to post an interim loss of about £28 million.

Tour operators traditionally dip into the red in the first half, when they spend heavily in the hopes of recouping their losses during the summer. First Choice, which is owned by Thomas Cook and whose chief executive is Francis Baron, had a rough ride in the year to October when pre-tax profits tumbled to £1.3 million from £16.3 million a year earlier. Profits were hurt by the huge discounts needed to lure travellers away from competitors.

First Choice may find that this year's wet summer will drive more families abroad, but the unseasonably early price-war does not bode well.

MATTHEW CLARK: When the drinks group reports its full-year profits on Wednesday, analysts will be looking to see how successful Matthew Clark has been in integrating Taunton Cider, which it acquired last year. They are looking for pre-tax profits ranging from £23 million to £30 million, but the figures will be distorted by extraordinary items. Excluding exceptional items, the City expects operating earnings per share of about 46.4p, with dividends of 23p.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Clarke likely to cut forecast

The centrepiece of the British economic calendar this week is tomorrow's summer forecast from the Treasury, the economic assumptions of which will provide the backdrop to the Budget in November. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is widely expected to revise down his forecast for growth this year from 3 per cent and to raise his projection for public borrowing. The new growth forecast will be between 2.5 per cent and 2.75 per cent, while the PSBR could be revised up to £28 billion from £22.5 billion. Inflation for end-1996 is likely to be unchanged at 2.5 per cent.

Before the summer forecast come two important releases today. Producer prices data are expected to show a continued drop in industry's costs and prices. Input prices are expected to have fallen 0.5 per cent in June, giving a fall against a year ago of 0.3 per cent, according to the consensus of market forecasts compiled by MMS International. Output prices are expected to have fallen 0.1 per cent, taking the year-on-year rate down to 2.7 per cent from 2.9 per cent. Industrial production figures are expected to show a small rise of 0.2 per cent in both total production and in manufacturing output.

On Thursday, the latest distributive trades survey from the CBI is released as well as June retail price inflation figures. Headline inflation is forecast to be flat, pushing the annual rate down to 2.1 per cent from 2.2 per cent in May. The underlying rate of inflation is forecast to fall to 2.7 per cent from 2.8 per cent, and RPIV, the measure which excludes both mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes, is expected to be unchanged at 2.3 per cent.

Overseas, there will be interest in US retail sales and producer prices figures on Friday and German unemployment figures tomorrow. The Bundesbank council meets on Thursday, but is not expected to alter rates.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy Vardon, SIG, ML Laboratories; Sell Eurotherm, The Observer, Bay Dixons, Zeneca; Sell Rank, Allied Domecq, Caradon, P&O, BAA, The Sunday Telegraph; Buy CRH, Great Universal Stores, Forward Technology Industries, Reg Vardy, Newman Tunks, Dixons; Property Trust, Sunday Express; Buy HTV.

Issues that could spoil the party

The gilt market has had a good run recently. Since the lows associated with the initial impact of the mad cow problem, the trend has been quite decisively up. Looked at as the spread over German bunds — the way in which most European bonds are judged these days — the UK Government has seen the cost of its funding fall from about a 1.9 per cent premium over bunds to around 1.5 per cent currently.

One factor has been a switch of focus from political issues and back to good old-fashioned economics. Inflation has stayed low, interest rates have fallen further and economic growth

GILT-EDGED

has slowed to something seen to be below trend. The level of government borrowing has, at times, caused concern, but the overshoot has, from a market perspective, been kept within reasonable bounds.

Indeed, when the Chancellor presents half-yearly economic forecasts this week, he will have quite an upbeat story to tell. True, he will have to revise the growth forecast down and the PSBR forecast up for this year, but, for next year, he will doubtless say, with some justification, that

stronger growth will tend to ensure that the trend in the PSBR is down. For this year and next, the inflation target is expected to be achieved.

What has been going on has not been just a domestically-driven economic story. International investors have been seeking value in bond markets and chasing those that have tended to yield above-average returns. At various times, Italy, Spain and Sweden have been the flavour of the month. The UK has, somewhat belatedly, joined in

the spread-narrowing that has been a feature of the high-yielders so far this year.

Perhaps surprisingly, political risk has not been a deterrent to overseas investors. There are a variety of explanations. Kenneth Clarke has given assurances that he will not go for the traditional pre-election tax or interest-rate cuts. Although a small pinch of salt may be required, a "scorched earth" policy is not on the cards. The Labour Party is not the threat it once was. And with John Major indicating his intention to run the full term, a general election may still be almost a year away.

It may seem churlish, when much seems to be going right, to identify what could go wrong. However, two issues loom and have the potential to spoil the party at some stage.

The first is the UK's economic performance. There are clear signs that activity is picking up again. Witness growth in narrow money, consumer credit, house prices and earnings. To talk of a return of the "feel-good" factor may be to overstate the case, but stronger growth in consumers' expenditure is on the cards.

What that means is that towards the end of this year, and going into next, growth in the economy is more likely to be above trend than below and there will be (modest) upward pressure on inflation and even more pressure to raise interest rates. However, prudent Mr Clarke is likely to be, to expect him to raise interest rates before a general election is to expect too much.

Strong growth, rising house prices and expectations of slightly higher inflation may be good for a Government looking to get re-elected, but are bad news for the gilt market, and monetary policy could effectively be on hold at a crucial time in the economic cycle. Whoever wins the next general election is probably going to have to put interest rates up — and the longer the delay, the higher they will eventually need to go.

The other issue is the general election itself — far enough away to be ignored to a large degree at the moment, but getting closer by the day. Come autumn, the political temperature at Westminster will have soared and every shift in the opinion polls will make headlines. The gilt market has a history of reacting to elections surprisingly close to the event. It may be different this time, but not completely different. Some risk is bound to be factored into gilt prices.

JOHN SHEPHERD AND NIGEL RICHARDSON

Coalfield job creator helped 130,000

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE job-creation arm of British Coal helped more than 130,000 people to find work in areas hit by the decline of the mining industry over the past 12 years, its final annual report shows today.

More than 60,000 redundant miners found a new job because of British Coal Enterprise, which has built a number of industrial and office units in mining

towns and villages to attract new businesses. Almost 55,000 jobs were created by the company's business-funding arm, which gave loans, and another 16,000 jobs came from the industrial and office units.

Philip Andrew, chief executive, said: "We have made a real and lasting contribution to the long-term regeneration of Britain's coalfield areas."

The organisation was formed in 1984, at the time of the year-long miners' strike,

with the aim of creating 100,000 jobs in ten years.

It invested £101 million in more than 5,300 job-creating projects, which, in turn, attracted a further £730 million from other sources, including banks.

BCE's business-funding and external outplacement divisions have now been sold to management buyouts and the sale of its workspace activity is imminent.

GROUPE PARIBAS

Purchase offer for Compagnie Financière Ottomane by VALEURS ET RENDEMENTS SA

The Luxembourg Stock Exchange authorities, have been advised that VALEURS ET RENDEMENTS SA, a Luxembourg registered company, is launching its public offer, guaranteed by Compagnie Financière de Paribas and to be implemented by a guaranteed price (OPA), to purchase 100% of the shares of Compagnie Financière Ottomane (CFO, a Luxembourg registered company), 50.1% being held by the public and the balance by companies within Groupe Paribas. This offer is made at a price of FRF 350 per share, FRF 402,660 per Founders' share and FRF 40,266 per 1/10th of a Founders' share. Shares can be presented by the shareholders of CFO from 8 July to 2 August 1996 inclusive:

a) on the Stock Exchanges of London, Luxembourg and Paris through an intermediary. On the Paris Stock Exchange, sale expenses will be borne by the buyer in accordance with the scale given in the information memorandum.

b) if bearer ordinary shares, Founders' shares and 1/10ths of Founders' shares:

- in London, to Barclays Bank, 8 Angel Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC2R 7HT;
- in Luxembourg, to Banque Paribas, 10A Boulevard Royal, L-2093 Luxembourg;

in Paris, bearer shares should be sold on the market through an intermediary.

c) as regards registered shares:

- in London, to Independent Registrars Group, Bourne House, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4TU;
- in Luxembourg, to Banque Paribas Luxembourg, 10A Boulevard Royal, L-2093 Luxembourg;

in Paris, the shares should be sold through an account holding intermediary after having been registered with Sicovam.

Settlement will be made in Sterling in London and French Francs in Luxembourg.

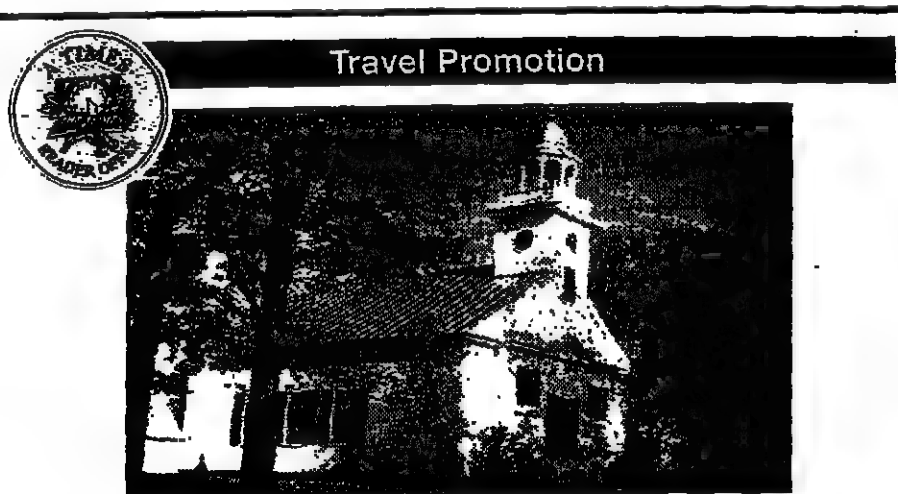
This offer to purchase follows the sale by CFO of its sole operational activity, Osmanli Bankasi, to the Garanti Bankasi Group on 25 June 1996. CFO now holds only a portfolio of liquid assets, trade investments and a building in Paris.

The price offered by VALEURS ET RENDEMENTS SA for the shares is 40% higher than the weighted average price on the daily market at the Paris stock exchange during the three months preceding announcement of this operation in May last. It is 17% above the market price on the day preceding this announcement. For Founders' shares and 1/10ths of Founders' shares, the price proposed is 205% higher than the weighted average on the unquoted market of the Paris stock exchange during the 12 months preceding the announcement. The offer represents 97% of the revolved net assets of the company as at 31 May 1996 which total FRF 360 per share.

The board of directors of CFO, having considered the offer and possible alternative courses of action, concluded that on balance and in all the circumstances, it would be in the interests of shareholders to accept the price proposed of FRF 350 per share. Only the independent directors took part in this vote. Furthermore, Salustro Reydel and Robson Rhodes, appointed as independent experts, have concluded that they have no comment on the price offered to shareholders.

An information memorandum is available:

- in Paris at Banque Paribas, 3 rue d'Antin, 75002 Paris;
- in Luxembourg at Banque Paribas Luxembourg, 10A Boulevard Royal, L-2093 Luxembourg;
- in London at Ottomani Financial Services, King William House, 2A Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AA, at Barclays Bank and Independent Registrars Group.



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Liquidators attacked over BCCI payouts

BY ROBERT MILLER

LIQUIDATORS of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), which crashed five years ago with debts of \$10 billion, have been criticised for failing to pay out compensation.

Keith Vaz, the MP for Leicester East who has campaigned on behalf of depositors and former BCCI employees, said he was calling on John Major to intervene personally to secure a speedy settlement for creditors.

Speaking on the anniversary of the bank's failure, Mr Vaz said the crash of BCCI had generated fees worth some \$285.6 million up to January this year for Deloitte & Touche, the bank's liquidator, and Lovell White and Durant, its lawyer. A spokesman for Deloitte & Touche declined to comment.

The Labour MP added that the principle shareholder in BCCI, the Sheikh of Abu Dhabi, had earlier this year paid the liquidators compensation of \$1.55 billion as part of a total package that will top \$1.8 billion.

There are 250,000 BCCI creditors worldwide, 38,000 of whom are based in the UK. The Deposit Protection Scheme, administered by the Bank of England, has paid out £78 million in compensation to 16,000 depositors. The Bank initially identified 53,000 sterling accounts, but only 40,000 left contact addresses, and in the end only 16,000 claimed.

The BCCI collapse also sparked the largest investigation and prosecution file yet undertaken by the Serious Fraud Office.

The investigation has so far resulted in four convictions, including that of Syed Ziauddin Ali Akbar, head of the bank's overseas treasury division, who was extradited from France and sentenced to six years in prison in September 1993. He pleaded guilty to 16 specimen charges of false accounting totalling \$740 million between 1982 and 1986.

In September, the SFO will bring another BCCI-related case to court against Abbas Gokal, chairman of the Gulf Group, over allegations of fraud and false accounting. One charge mentions \$1.2 billion, the largest single sum ever used in an indictment against an individual.



Vaz plea to John Major

Pressure eased in gas battle

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BRITISH GAS has delayed invoking part of the Gas Act to free it from price controls in a move that may ease tension between the company and the regulator over pricing plans for Transco, the pipelines operator.

Transco had asked for a price-control disapplication from July 1 next year to put pressure on the regulator to announce her controls. Present price controls expire next April and the disapplication plea meant that if no revised price formula were agreed by then, the business would be free to trade unregulated. The timeframe allowed for the regulator to make proposals, and have a month's consultation with the company, and then for the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to judge the issue.

However, Transco has now put back the disapplication date after Ofgas said that it may need more time. It has been set for September 6.

Ogas has already delayed by three weeks unveiling final proposals for Transco after initial ones angered the company. The latest date the industry is thought to be working towards is July 23, but the disapplication date gives Ofgas breathing space into August.



Dean Miles, front of Retail Broadcast Services, and Tim O'Neill at the launch of Gfm

Granada's motorway radio link goes on air

BY JON ASHWORTH

GRANADA has launched Gfm, its own digital satellite radio station, as part of a revamp of UK motorway service stations. The service, beamed to 39 sites from central London, provides Capital Radio-style news and music to an annual audience of more than 100 million.

The station went "live" last week, bringing 24-hour news, music and product information to Granada forecourts and cafeterias. About 274,000 people pass through Granada service stations each day.

Tim O'Neill, marketing director of Granada Hospitality, said: "We were looking for something different to communicate more effectively with customers and add value to our service stations. The overall environment of our service stations has improved, with CD-quality music, and news and information."

Gfm is run by Retail Broadcast Services (RBS), which provides a similar service to store groups such as Sainsbury's and B&H. Granada's listeners benefit from AA Roadwatch bulletins tailored to a particular stretch of motorway, while DJs draw attention to particular Granada products on sale. An additional screen-based service carries news updates and product information. The station's format changes through the day.

Granada Hospitality has spent about £250,000 upgrading speaker systems at its sites. Much of the work has been devoted to a showpiece service station on the M6 at Stafford, opened in April, at a cost of £19 million.

Society chief waives bonus

BY ANNE ASHWORTH

BRIAN DAVIS, chief executive of Nationwide Building Society, the second largest, saw his pay rise from £286,000 to £337,000 in the year to April. His salary included an annual bonus of £39,000 and a

medium-term bonus of £73,000. However, Dr Davis chose to waive total bonuses of £45,000, a decision he also took in 1995 when he waived bonuses of £68,000.

Dr Davis took over the top job in July 1994, which means that his earnings for that year

included only nine months' pay as chief executive.

In February the Nationwide, which is pledged to retain its mutual status, launched a mutually reward package, returning £200 million in profits to savers and borrowers.

Eight new issues

IT MAY be a fraction of the size of the Stock Exchange, but last week, the Alternative Investment Market outpaced the main exchange by attracting eight new issues to the latter's five.

AFA Systems, which floated on Wednesday at 120p, showed that a company whose sales date back only four months can still win the confidence of AIM investors, encouraged by the record of its management. It ended the week at 156p. Other

trading was relatively quiet, says Julian Palfreyman, a trader at Winterflood Securities. As the financial half-year approaches, fund managers are traditionally more reluctant to spend to keep within the limits of the balance book.

This week is likely to keep up the momentum of new issues. Podrum, a foods com-

pany, is being placed at 3p today, which will make the shares the cheapest on the market. Drings, a Bath stone mason, floated at 3p on Friday and achieved a premium of 1p. Traders expect Podrum to follow suit.

Citroal, the aluminium and thermoplastics group which floats today at 12p, has more than one reason to

be grateful for the £5.8 million it is raising. By pushing the stake of its largest shareholder to below 50 per cent, the group has satisfied the criteria which allow investors to claim tax relief on capital gains made on its shares. This puts Citroal on a different level of liquidity, attracting more private investors and catching the attention of the venture capital trusts.

FRASER NELSON

1996 High	Low	Mid cap (million)	Price pence	Wtd %	Yld %	P/E	1996 High	Low	Mid cap (million)	Price pence	Wtd %	Yld %	P/E
136	132	13.60 AFA Systems	138				3	2	0.35 Just Group Wts	2			
134	109	16.70 AMCO Corp	417	+	3	5.3	16.4	120	103	43.00 KS Emerald	106		
58	18	2.48 Abacus Renewal	145					160	161	50.60 La Senza	151	-	2
101	115	26.70 Active Imaging	146	-	7			180	137	26.20 Lancashire En	146		3.4
210	123	31.00 A de Gruy	210	-		3.6		300	210	15.20 Lancers	250	-	10
204	74	15.70 African Gold	154			3.1		3730	2550	89.30 Lawrie Group	3550		2.5
214	13	7.06 Albemarle & Bd	19					290	255	47.30 La Rhodes Sins	285	+	8
44	13	7.47 Alpha Omission	15	-	1			95	85	13.00 Mariner & Mac S	85		
470	380	45.00 Ann St Brewery	470	+	15	4.9	12.7	64	2	48.00 Lon Electricity	54	+	4
863	885	5.72 Ann St Cvt Pl	965			8.4		70	55	1.38 London Town	54	-	30
121	75	51.90 Antony	73	-	2			360	200	17.70 Lorien Gp	310	-	20
9	9	7.88 Aron Props	8	-				25	15	10.60 M&S O'Shea	18		2.3
141	88	22.50 Ashtree Central	140	-	1			135	108	13.00 Mariner & Mac S	108	-	5
83	55	1.14 Affinity Trust	63					125	110	2.51 Metric Hiltom	110		
84	54	7.72 Ballynary	83	-	1		44.1	117	82	47.40 Megalonia	103		
26	17	5.80 Bais Hldgs	23	-	1			99	79	47.40 Megalonia Wts	89		
46	43	4.12 Balcato	46	+	3			113	86	6.96 Merit	117		2.8
150	140	0.99 Bowness Leds	145			3.9	7.1	475	75	45.80 Memory Corp	77		
70	70	3.00 Bown Leds Cvt Pl	70					22	18	5.17 Metrodome Films	18		
70	50	9.15 Brancol Hldgs	53	-	7			235	156	15.60 Monesay	205		2.7
503	240	54.70 Bracknell	463			2.0		200	87	7.80 Monaghanell	103		21.5
124	116	12.50 CA Couths Hldgs	118					203	150	29.70 Mulberry Group	150	-	5
120	110	0.84 CCI Hldgs	118			6.5		89	67	1.32 NECA	69		
110	110	0.13 CCI Founder Shs	110					18	18	1.32 NECA	18		
213	95	5.23 Celsco Ints	183	-	2	1.6	15.1	340	285	21.60 NWF Gp	285		2.8
76	55	7.29 Caledonian Tst	65			7.9		210	175	13.70 Neash (Wm)	175		4.3
34	2	3.00 Capital & Wain	34					380	265	9.11 Neash (Wm)	340		17.5
96	68	13.00 Cardigan	80	-	1	0.8	17.4	470	200	12.20 Nelson Cobbold	445		1.5
83	58	16.00 Card User	71	+	8			86	65	Noracy II	65	+	11
106	93	11.50 Cardshore Ship	93	-	7		8.1	73	63	Norhamnes	83		
72	60	3.39 Cassidy Bros	62			6.3		76	53	6.07 Nfm Palm	63		
46	41	2.08 Cavendish W F	46			3.9		8	8	0.13 Nfm Palm Wts	8		
18	18	5.28 Celebrated Group	14					70	53	Nfm Palm Res Pcp	60		
325	650	63.70 Celtic	6245	+	2000			116	111	17.80 Nursing Home	116		1.3
2275	6450	15.80 CI Comm(PI Shs	6176	+	2000			154	90	16.20 Nfm Palm Pub	154		33.0
124	109	15.80 CI Comm(TV)	117	-	2	2.8		136	84	7.09 Orielman	115		0.5
86	61	57.77 Clearwell Ind	71	+	8			75	51	13.80 Orinville	56	-	4
108	93	107.50 Chelsea Village	80	+	22			122	66	23.30 Optical Care	122	-	7
180	183	19.90 Circle Comm	183					263	43	32.70 Pacific Media	235		
110	110	0.99 Circle Comm	110					109	171	32.90 Pen Arden Res	106	-	5
33	28	13.90 CitiPartners	33					200	180	4.78 Pen Cass(Liv)	200		
510	510	8.47 Concorde Tech	510					95	40	95.40 P&S	95		3.1
18	15	8.47 Concorde Tech	18					184	125	28.40 Polymasc Pharma	142	-	2
100	100	0.25 Conc Tech A Pl	100					565	560	6.96 Primary Hth Pl	540		
100	100	0.25 Conc Tech B Pl	100					103	103	15.50 Primary Hth Pl	103		
125	125	0.84 Conc Tech Rd Pl	125					305	180	35.80 Prism Rail	275	-	20
225	225	0.17 Conc Tech Cvt Pl	225					67	32	5.86 Raphael Zn	63	+	3
44	37	8.76 Constar Int	40			5.0	10.0	111	43	8.95 Rallies	101	+	11
86	58	15.70 Country Gols	68			2.0	16.4	18	16	1.29 Revelation Plc	8		
108	37	2.49 Cnry Gols Pl	72			0.8		16	16	11.90 Riscman Inss	16		
108	57	25.90 Cnry Gols Pl	72					68	68	4.55 Riscman	68	-	5
63	53	23.70 Crown Products	53					4	3	3.80 Riscman Wynne	4		
377	152	27.10 DBS Management	377	+	17	4.0		128	31	3.19 S2S Satellite	31		
36	32	3.41 David Glass	32					75	71	16.80 SEA Multimedia	73		4.0
1700	860	76.60 Dawson Hldgs	1675	+	1	5.7		39	20	2.18 Seon Pictorial	39	+	2
17	11	4.38 Dean Corp	15			1.7		68	28	3.81 Seon Pictorial	68	+	5
375	305	33.60 Dicom	327	+	4	75.5		320	270	14.60 Seon Pictorial	320		5.3
76	60	14.30 Dromeda	76					60	30	2.39 Self Sealing	41	-	2
4	4	3.07 Drings of Bath	4					172	164	20.90 Sinclair Monies	172	+	5
137	70	10.70 Easynet	75					91	88	0.29 Sim Bus Wts	91	+	1
200	100	71.10 Electrophoretics	110	-	7			598	524	5.69 Solid State Sp	534	-	3
116	73	18.60 Euro Sales Fm	80	+	4			615	255	77.70 Stamford Reok	423	-	25
475	325	45.70 Fibernet	475	+	10			171	75	11.10 Stanor	158	+	13
138	111	3.05 Fielders	123	+	12			315	122	28.20 Surrey Fr Ints	280	-	0.9
260	75	6.13 First Publ	260					136	115	15.40 Syst Integ Rsch	115		
188	45	16.40 First Publ	178					915	545	29.40 TRACER Helms	565	-	80
183	175	36.10 First Publ	178					185	125	33.40 Tackpoint Fed	155	+	20
342	253	7.05 Floral St	340			0.4	13.8	35	38	5.15 Talc Cndt Eur	35		
193	136	16.40 Fomercan	156	-	2	1.6	20.3	43	25	14.60 Talc Cndt Eur	38		
354	14	102.70 Freepages	28	-	1	2.3		138	108	18.00 Theo Fernell	111	-	9
143	83	8.28 Furlong Homes	138					116	99	17.00 Theo Fernell	101	+	1
71	17	27.20 Galt Mines Sardia	104	+	3			56	43	3.10 Tom Hostons	55		
22	18	6.43 Galt Mines Sardia Wts	12	+	3			180	165	5.03 Trinity Care Pl	165		3.6
150	145	33.10 Gulton	148			3.4		42	40	33.90 Trocadero	68	+	2
41	18	1.83 Hanson	18	-	3			174	46	3.83 Univent	42		
275	155	1.38 Hercules Prop	55					2014	1474	6.88 Univent	36		1.3
255	180	11.10 Hestree A	255	+	48	2.8	15.7	650	130	48.90 Versailles Gp	515	-	40
138	120	59.00 Hiscor	130					428	232	15.40 Viewlin	290		
80	65	0.76 Hittingham	65	-	9	0.3		15	7	11.14 Voss	111	-	1
297	255	38.80 IES	240	-	10			15	7	West Coast Wines	14		
280	240	4.95 IES Warrants	240					5.25	Western Select	15			35.3
134	105	12.70 Ind Brl Health	127	-	5			0.31	Western Sel Wrt	5			
88	78	13.10 Inver Workings	78	-	7			3.16	Westminster Energy	30			48.5
88	80	12.10 Inver Workings	78	-	7			3.84	Whitecross	150			
523	503	22.00 Int Holdings	523	+	4	1.2		153	150	Westminster choices	150	-	6
100	108	36.20 Int Holdings	148	+	5			75	46	Westminster Pl Mid	63	-	5
103	83	4.12 Jazmin	101	+	13			145	105	Wyndesley	105	-	10
328	280	23.20 Jeannine Bus	315	-	5	2.5	22.6	145	105	Wyndesley	105	-	5.4

Deadline looms for deal on 'roaring lion' studio

Crédit Lyonnais close to unveiling MGM buyer

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

MGM, the Hollywood film studio, is likely to be sold this week after a tense bidding round.

Industry sources believe that the new owner of the celebrated "big cat" studio will be one of three companies: Polygram, the Anglo-Dutch entertainment group; the Morgan Creek film company, or News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*. At one point, there were more than twice as many bidders.

The current owner, Crédit

Lyonais, the French bank, has set itself a July 14 deadline for an announcement of which of the bidders has succeeded.

Bank executives spent the weekend "clarifying" the bids. Their decision is likely to be announced simultaneously in New York, Los Angeles and Paris.

Crédit Lyonnais took control of MGM in 1992 after the studio's then owner, Giancarlo Parretti, of Italy, defaulted on his loans.

The bank has until next May to dispose of its controlling stake, but it

wants to sell now after a boost to MGM's profile from a series of box office hits, such as *The Birdcage* and *Pierce Brosnan's* first James Bond film, *Goldeneye*.

The three leading bids are believed to hover around the \$1.2 billion mark, well shy of the \$2 billion that Crédit Lyonnais once hoped to achieve.

Price, however, will not be the only factor in the decision on who gets to buy a studio whose symbolic lion, roaring during the opening credits of many Hollywood classics,

evokes the early romance of motion pictures.

MGM was, for years, the domain of the late Louis B. Mayer, who arrived in Los Angeles in 1916 and formed a film production company that eventually became Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Mayer was a mercurial force, and his reliance on family-orientated, patriotic movies brought him success and power. His hits included the 1926 version of *Ben Hur*, *Dinner at Eight* and *Grand Hotel*.

Later owners of the studio in-

cluded the Bronfman, of Seagram's whisky fame, and Kirk Kerkorian, the Las Vegas casino entrepreneur, who sold assets and did little for the studio's artistic confidence. Signor Parretti was another vivid character, but, in recent times, MGM's movie-making prospered under the aegis of Frank Mancuso, and, in 1995, the studio grossed \$333 million from 15 films, against \$149 million from eight films in 1994.

Mr Mancuso, a veteran Hollywood figure, attempted to mount a management buyout, partly backed

by General Electric's NBC television network. The Mancuso bid is thought to have failed.

Bidders have been attracted by MGM's long backlist of films, including the James Bond and Rocky series, and by the prospect of owning one of the best-known brand names in global entertainment. For the successful bidder will come the satisfaction not only of instant awe and recognition in Tinseltown, but also of sitting against a backdrop of Hollywood's mightiest symbol, the roaring lion.

Lloyd's talks aim to win US backing for survival plan

BY JON ASHWORTH

LOYD'S OF LONDON resumes talks with officials in America today, in the hope of striking an agreement before the Lloyd's annual meeting and securing US support for a £3.1 billion survival plan.

The talks take place as the results of a MORI poll is published in London, appearing to show support of more than 80 per cent of UK investors for the plan.

The 82 per cent majority likely to support the deal, vital for the future of Lloyd's, is the best figure since it was first outlined last autumn. In November, a similar poll by MORI showed only 54 per cent backing the proposals put forward by the ruling Council of Lloyd's. The figure rose to 65 per cent in December and

79 per cent in May. Up to 2,000 Lloyd's names are expected to attend proceedings, which come soon after the publication of results for the 1993 underwriting year.

Aggrieved US names have put pressure on state regulators to try to force an improved offer from Lloyd's. Opposition within America possibly poses the single biggest threat to the Lloyd's reconstruction and renewal (R&R) plan. But Lloyd's hopes to have resolved its American difficulties by the time members gather at the Royal Festival Hall in London on July 15.

This Friday, Lloyd's is expected to unveil a profit of up to £1.2 billion for the 1993 underwriting year — its first profit since a wave of catastro-

phes in the late 1980s began to take their toll. The profit will be the first since 1987.

Names attending the annual meeting on July 15 will have barely two hours in which to address the floor — in sharp contrast to past meetings, at which proceedings have continued for six hours or more. David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's, will call a halt to proceedings soon after noon, clearing the way for an extraordinary general meeting.

Names will hear calls for further increases to the £3.1 billion settlement offer, which was revised from an initial £2.8 billion two months ago. During the afternoon, names will vote on plans for a refundable levy, aimed at raising £440 million towards the Lloyd's settlement.

Statements telling names how much they will have to pay will be sent out towards the end of the month. Names have until August 28 to indicate whether they are going to accept the offer.

Lloyd's has yet to decide what level of acceptance will be required to carry the day. Assuming success, names will have until the end of September to come up with the necessary funds.

Lloyd's received a boost last week, when the committee of the Association of Lloyd's Members (ALM), which represents about 9,000 names, indicated its support for R&R. Sir David Berriman, ALM chairman, commended the offer, and said that the future for those rejecting R&R was likely to be bleak.

The latest round of auctions for capacity at Lloyd's begins today, with a slow start expected. Introduced last year, auctions take the form of sealed bids, allowing members to sell underwriting capacity to the highest bidder.

Hoover to make big UK investment

BY CLARE STEWART

THE European arm of Hoover, the domestic appliances company, is ready to announce a major investment in the UK this week, together with the launch of a number of new products.

The move comes one year after the Hoover European Appliance Group was acquired from Maytag Corporation in the United States by Candy, the privately owned Italian appliance manufacturer.

Hoover's European base is at Merthyr Tydfil in Mid Glamorgan, where 1,000 people are employed in the headquarters and factory. It also has a

floorcare factory in Cambuslang, Glasgow.

The details of the investment in the UK will be the first major changes since Candy took over the company.

At the time of the \$170 million deal, Candy promised to develop the UK manufacturing facilities and to develop its links with Maytag, which retains the Hoover business in the US, in order to develop the product range.

Candy, which is based in Monza in Italy, is the fourth-largest manufacturer of white goods in Europe, and commands a 12 per cent share of the European market.

Spring Ram meeting investigated

BY JASON NISSE

SPRING Ram Corporation, the troubled kitchens and bathrooms group, may be forced to reconvene its annual meeting after complaints that the original meeting, held last month, was not conducted properly.

A small shareholder, Ian Patison, of Halifax, West Yorkshire, has written to the Stock Exchange and the Department of Trade and Industry to complain that Roger Regan, Spring Ram's chairman, failed to take a vote properly in the meeting and acted undemocratically.

The Stock Exchange is investigating the complaints and the DTI has suggested that Mr Patison may consider legal action against Spring Ram. The specific complaint by Mr Patison is over the way Mr Regan handled the vote to appoint Philip Hanscombe as a non-executive director.

The vote was taken and, according to Mr Patison, the motion was clearly defeated on a show of hands. Instead of then calling for a poll of shareholders, as is usual, Mr Regan asked Mr Hanscombe to give a speech to the AGM and for the vote to be taken again.

According to Mr Patison, Mr Regan then asked shareholders to reconsider given the length of time it would take to have a poll and the fact this would delay lunch. The second show of hands showed a majority in favour of Mr Hanscombe.

Kathy Baxandall, Spring Ram's company secretary, denied that Mr Regan had asked for the vote to be taken again "in the interests of lunch", saying that the first vote was inconclusive.

Revenue to tell AIM firms their tax status

BY FRASER NELSON

CONFUSION over eligibility for capital gains tax relief, which has plagued the Alternative Investment Market since its inception, may be cleared in the next few months by an Inland Revenue scheme to make its tax regulations more investor-friendly.

After pressure from City firms, including Winterflood Securities, the AIM market-maker, the Inland Revenue has agreed to tell unlisted companies whether their shares qualify for the tax break before they come to the market.

At present, the Revenue will not decide whether a company

is suitable for capital gains tax reinvestment relief until shareholders make their claim, having sold shares.

AIM market-makers were pushing for the complex regulations to be clarified, and for a definitive list of qualifying companies to be drawn up. However, the Revenue said that such a list would be price sensitive, and that its remit was to deal with investors individually. It added that, under the compromise, tax details would be sorted out with individual companies.

In spite of the common belief that the Alternative Investment Market is a tax

haven, fewer than a third of its 183 companies qualify for reinvestment relief. To qualify, a company must own at least 75 per cent of its subsidiaries, and avoid having a "substantial amount" of business in financial services, licensing or property. However, a qualifying company that moves to a full listing keeps the special tax status, regardless of its further trading developments.

The Inland Revenue's new system of "advance clearance" is now in the final stages of development, and is expected to be activated before autumn.

AIM, page 40

Undies to Japan

JAPAN'S yen for top-quality British goods is spreading to ladies' underwear. The Knickerbox chain has opened two stores in Kobe, with 200 planned later. A spokeswoman says: "It's all down to display. They used to keep the stuff in cardboard boxes, but now there are window displays featuring lifelike photographs and cut-out models of Western girls wearing the latest that Britain has to offer."

A long goodbye

MYSTERY shopping is growing in financial services. Prospero Direct, direct-selling arm of Provincial Insurance, uses the method, whereby pretend clients ring staff to see how they handle the public, but Barrie Wells, Prospero managing director, was astonished when the chief executive of one of the UK's top brokers, boasted that his staff complete monthly to see how long they can detain an underwriter on Prospero's free-call line. The record holder hit 53 minutes.

Ladbroke eyes Moscow

BY ALAN DAIR MURRAY

LADBROKE is leading the charge of Western hotel groups keen to participate in the £1 billion sell-off of Moscow's state-owned hotels.

The city government of Moscow has appointed Knight Frank, the surveyor, as investment advisers to the sale of 200 hotels ranging in size from 100 to 3,200 rooms.

The star attractions are the National Hotel in Red Square, recently refurbished for \$90 million, and the 1,000-room Ukraina, on the River Moskva, opposite the White House, Russia's parliament.

Moscow is an extremely attractive market to hotel groups with the boom in business travellers causing a chronic shortage in suitable

accommodation. Upmarket hotels in Moscow are the most expensive in the world, commanding average room rates of \$300 a night. Occupancy levels are 80 per cent.

John Inge, of Knight Frank, said: "The hotels are enormously attractive, including many famous names, and buyers are queuing up from around the world." Many, however, are in poor condition and will need significant investment to bring them up to Western standards.

Ladbroke has confirmed that it is interested in adding Moscow hotels to its Hilton portfolio. Other buyers considering purchases include ITT Sheraton and Marriott as well as private buyers from the Middle East and Asia Pacific — but not Sir Rocco Forte.



The Ukraina is well sited

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 36

SEMIBOUSY

(a) Half drunk. Obsolete. The grandfather of half-cut and semi-boozy. "Som unlisty persons, that were not well awaked, or semibousy or eve."

SMITHAM

(a) The finest particle of dust or ground malt. In mining, the finest part of lead ore, usually obtained by passing through a sieve, and afterwards ground to powder. A variant of *smeddum* meaning spirit or pith. "Your malt-dust which is the sprout, come, smitham, and other excrements of the malt."

SCHADON

(b) The larva of a bee. From Aristotle in the Greek *schadon*. "The weather keeping them [i.e. bees] in, they can do nothing but breed and hatch their schadons."

SOCLE

(c) A low plain block or plinth serving as a pedestal to a statue, column, or vase, etc. Also a plain plinth forming a foundation for a wall. From the Latin *soculus* diminutive of *socus* a sock. "A high round pedestal formed by the foaming sea-water, like the socle of a monument."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 Qf6! Rxf2 2 Re8! Rf3 3 Rxf8 checkmate

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar

1.5555 (+0.0018)

German mark

2.3773 (+0.0129)

Exchange index

86.7 (+0.4)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET	
FT 30 share	2743.9 (+14.2)
FT-SE 100	3743.2 (+32.2)
New York Dow Jones	5588.14 (-68.49)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave	22232.42 (-298.33)

TOURIST RATES	
Australia \$	2.08
Austria Sch	17.72
Belgium Fr	67.88
Canada \$	2.225
Cyprus Cyp£	0.784
Denmark Kr	9.73
Finland Mk	7.81
France Fr	6.44
Germany Dm	2.33
Greece Dr	368
Hong Kong \$	12.70
Ireland Pt	1.03
Israel Shk	5.35
Italy Lit	2064
Japan Yen	186.80
Malta	0.804
Netherlands Gld	2.817
New Zealand \$	2.432
Norway Kr	10.68
Portugal Esc	255.00
Africa Rd	206.50
Spain Ptas	166.64
Sweden Kr	11.00
Switzerland Fr	2.09
Turkey Lira	132516
USA \$	1.855

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99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-
92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW
SERVICE. MW 648; LW
102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM
MW 1053, 1089. Television
by Ian Hughes, Rosemary



هكذا مضى الزمان

True stories, honest portraits, absent reality

Hesitate to condone the telly-watching habits of *Men Behaving Badly*, but sometimes it comes uncomfortably close to life. Anyone who saw last Thursday's edition, you see, may have had an uncomfortable feeling of déjà vu during last night's *Seven*. One: *Killing Me Softly* (BBC1). This was the controversial Sara Thornton docudrama, starring the beautiful Maggie O'Neill, which caused the *Daily Mail* last week to cry out in anticipation: "Why can't TV tell the truth about this sick husband-killer?"

Let's imagine ourselves back on the sofa at Gary and Tony's, with them watching *Killing Me Softly*. As the Thornton saga unfolds, and Malcolm starts hitting Sara when drunk, the girls swap sensitive remarks. "She ought to leave him," says Dorothy. "But she can't," says Debs. "No," they nod, together. Meanwhile the men look restless until suddenly Gary pipes up.

"The top's coming off!" he cries. "It's coming off!" echoes Tony. Together, they lean forward in their chairs. "Come on, come on, come on," they chorus, until finally, "It's OFF."

Personally, I got quite involved in *Killing Me Softly*. It worked better as drama than I expected. Peter Howitt, as Malcolm Thornton, gave a brilliantly real performance — in no way the two-dimensional monster his relatives were said to have anticipated. His haircut was good, too. All round, the acting was fine (the child, Tilly Gerrard, was terrific), and the script made sense of a doomed relationship based on lust, in a recent television history. I would hazard that the words "Now they snog a lot" have never appeared so often in a screenplay's stage directions.

But the occasional bouts of nudity — so glaringly gratuitous — pointed to the usual stretching of

seams which always accompanies docudrama and explains why it's a bastard form better left alone. With docudrama, two types of reality fight it out, and neither wins.

Just as the dramatist has established Maggie O'Neill's lost-found depiction of Sara, the scene is required by the facts of the case in which she drops her dress to the floor during a late-night chat with a friend; or goes to the kitchen, finds a knife, and sticks it in her husband. And then the viewer is supposed to say "Oh yes, the real Sara Thornton did that, didn't she?" as if it automatically makes sense.

The annoying thing about docudrama is this: that when it's good, it's worse. It plants a version of events in your head — and demands that you trust it without question. And when the drama works well, there

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

is even more reason to complain. A dramatic account of this case was entirely uncalled for — especially after the retrial, which made any "public interest" defence fall down — and is even counter-productive.

Understanding such a problematic personality as Sara Thornton's requires the imagination to be free of any true stereotype of the battered wife, but now that freedom is lost. Hers is a very singular

case which makes her a flawed figurehead for the provocative plea; mixing her up with Maggie O'Neill dancing with her top off makes matters much worse.

For anyone reeling from the confusion of reality and fantasy last night on BBC1, it was a bad idea to turn to *Elton John: The Tunes and Tiaras* (ITV), which was bound to induce vertigo in the staidest of viewers. *Tiaras and Tunes* was the infamous home video filmed by Elton John's partner David Furnish — in which the true Elton was to be revealed, with unlovely pouts, screams, and satin overload.

To be honest, it sounded rather tiresome — not to say narcissistic and predictable. In fact, it was a very clever film, answering questions about the life of a rich, mega-famous person that you would never think of asking. Every sequence that involved a wardrobe of any sort (oh my God) made the

jaw drop so low it was picking up cat-hair from the carpet.

Furnish showed Elton writing a song in a studio (he devotes an hour to the tune; if it doesn't come, he gives up). A world tour took in two million people, and hundreds of concerts. Back at home, he sat with his Mum on the sofa and she cried when she remembered his old drug habits. The clever thing was that Furnish wasn't showing off about the lifestyle he now enjoyed; he could still see how it would appear to normal people with nothing to do with showbiz. While it is no surprise that Elton John is career-minded, it is still a shock to see her a career can drive the life out of a person without him noticing. "What if your songs stopped?" asked Furnish at one point. "They won't," said Elton emphatically. "It doesn't work like that." And sadly, he's right.

The intimate moments contained a fair amount of camping around ("Bona! Bona! Mwah! Mwah!"), but these only served as better foils for the quiet bits. Elton was either frantically overloaded, or bored and restless. His great good sense had been to surround himself with down-to-earth people who didn't flirt with him — it was clearly his salvation. But was his life worth having? You couldn't help but wonder, especially when — in a perfectly placed scene — he visited his old Nan, well looked after in a nice house, with flowers delivered every week.

She was clearly devoted to him, but much as he loved her in return, it was tragically clear he could give her everything except time. "Did you get my card from Japan?" he asked. "Oh yes, lovely," she said. Now he was off to the Oscars, hoping to collect an award, and she was right behind him. "I hope you get half a dozen," she said.

6.00am Business Breakfast (BBC1) 7.00 **BBC Breakfast News** (BBC1) (1085) 9.00 **Breakfast News Extra** (BBC1) (302514)

9.20 **Ready, Steady, Cook** (i) (602427) 9.50 **Wildlife on One** (i) (602427) 10.00 **Wildlife on One** (i) (602427)

10.10 **My Favourite Nosh**, Chef Anton Mosimov cooks for actor Lionel Jeffries (8378137)

10.50 **News** (BBC1) and weather (3258798) 10.55 **Cricket** — Third Test: England v India. Live coverage from Trent Bridge (7442311)

12.00 **News** (BBC1) and weather (2683427) 12.05pm **Going for Gold** (i) (7513427)

12.30 **For the Love of It** (38449578) 12.35 **Neighbours** (BBC1) (8167663)

1.00 **News** (BBC1) and weather (13972) 1.30 **Regional News** and weather (86130021)

1.35 **Cricket** — Third Test: England v India. Live from Trent Bridge (9492408)

5.35 **Neighbours** (i) (BBC1) (8167663) 6.00 **Six O'Clock News** (BBC1) (595)

6.30 **Regional News** and weather (175) 7.00 **That's Showbusiness**, Mike Smith hosts the last in this series of the showbiz trivia game show. Tonight's guests are Bob Downes, Sarah Vandenbergh, Edna Doris and Ainsley Harriott (BBC1) (8167663)

7.30 **Watchdog**: Value for Money. Vanessa Feltz presents a guide to successful shopping. Including how to shop like a Proenza without a big bank balance, Ainsley Harriott checks out the best take-away pizzas and Chris Chel reveals how most mobile phone users are paying too much for their calls (BBC1) (8167663)

8.00 **EastEnders**, Grant is in no mood to celebrate his birthday and Peggy has something on her mind concerning Mark (BBC1) (8167663)

8.30 **Oh Doctor Beeching!** Steam-powered railway sitcom. An escaped turkey causes Hatley's new stationmaster no end of trouble, wandering on the line. With Paul Shane, Sue Pollard and Jeffrey Holland (BBC1) (8167663)

9.00 **News** (BBC1) regional news and weather (8158)

9.30 **Panorama**, in-depth investigations (BBC1) (832595)

10.10 **Bad Boys**, Comedy drama series about a Cockney wide-boy, stranded in Glasgow's gangland. Multiracial cop Fraser leads the brotherhood of Glasgow's gangsters and infiltrates a member of the Russian Mafia instead. But Fraser refuses to take this lying down and gets Wayne to sort it out. With Karl Howman (BBC1) (8167663)

11.00 **FILM: Cagney and Lacey: The Return** (1994). Tyne Daly and Sharon Glass as television's favourite female cops brought together again in a search for a cache of missing firearms. Directed by James Fraterley (BBC1) (8167663)

12.30am **International Athletics**, Highlights from Stockholm (49373)

1.00 **Weather** (1081354)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes "numbers" which allow you to programme your VCR to watch a programme automatically. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ is a trademark of Gemstar Development Ltd.

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE

7.00am **United Nations** (6901) 9.00 **Promo Your Luck** (124727) 9.30 **Love Connection** (8167663) 9.45 **Opah Winfrey** (8167663) 10.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 11.00 **Sally Jessy Raphael** (103424) 12.00 **Sally Jessy Raphael** (103424) 12.30 **Sally Jessy Raphael** (103424) 1.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 1.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 1.50 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 2.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 2.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 3.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 3.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 4.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 4.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 5.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 5.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 6.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 6.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 7.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 7.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 8.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 8.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 9.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 9.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 10.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 10.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 11.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 11.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 12.00 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 12.30 **Jeopardy!** (869400) 1.00 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CBI survey sees surge in optimism

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

OPTIMISM in the financial sector is growing sharply on the back of the strongest increase in business volumes since the 1980s, new figures from the Confederation of British Industry show today.

The findings of the CBI's latest survey of the financial services sector — especially on the growth of mortgage business by building societies — indicate the return of the long-sought "feel-good" factor, and confirm that the housing market is starting to improve.

Ministers and business leaders hope that today's CBI figures will preface a series of positive official statistics, starting with new figures on factory-level production and

industrial prices today, and retail prices later in the week. Next week ministers hope there will be a further fall in unemployment, and helpful figures on company profitability and public borrowing.

The CBI's quarterly survey, carried out with chartered accountants Coopers & Lybrand, shows business optimism in financial services is now increasing at the fastest rate since March 1993. A net balance of half the 267 financial services firms studied declared themselves optimistic about their overall business position, a significant increase on the 33 per cent balance in March and the balance of only 4 per cent last December.

Building societies, followed by banks and life insurers, are reporting the strongest rises in confidence, with only general insurers, security traders and venture capitalists claiming that overall confidence is lower than three months ago.

The rise in confidence follows the strongest increase in business volumes since the CBI started its financial services survey in 1989. A net balance of 46 per cent of firms are seeing a rise in their overall business volumes, compared to 5 per cent in March, and a balance of 1 per cent a year ago seeing business volumes falling.

Business volumes with all categories of customer rose over the past three months, the survey shows, though the increase with overseas customers was only marginal. However, it is the sharp rise in business with private individuals that is likely to be seen as the most significant indicator for the return of the "feel-good" factor, supporting the idea of a recovery in the housing market.

The volume of business transacted with private individuals grew for a net balance of 60 per cent of the companies surveyed — up from 4 per cent in the last quarter. Financial services firms expect the increase to be sustained over the next three months.

Business volumes with financial institutions also grew more strongly than expected, with a net 22 per cent reporting a rise, compared with a forecast of only 1 per cent. But business with industrial and commercial companies remained broadly level, suggesting investment by industry is not yet increasing.

Sudhir Jumarikar, CBI associate director of economic analysis, says today: "Overall business volumes rose markedly over the past three months... but companies expect business growth to moderate over the coming three months in line with the pace of expansion seen last year."

Tim Congdon, page 18
Leading article, page 19

Inflation keeps Clarke buoyant

By Oliver August

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, will tomorrow deliver an upbeat assessment of the economy despite being forced to admit that his 3 per cent growth forecast for this year will not be achieved.

In the Treasury's Summer Economic Forecast, Mr Clarke is expected to downgrade his Budget growth prediction to about 2.5 per cent after a sluggish performance in the first half of this year. He will also revise upwards his estimate of public borrowing from £22.5 billion to about £28 billion, underlining the difficulty of justifying significant tax cuts.

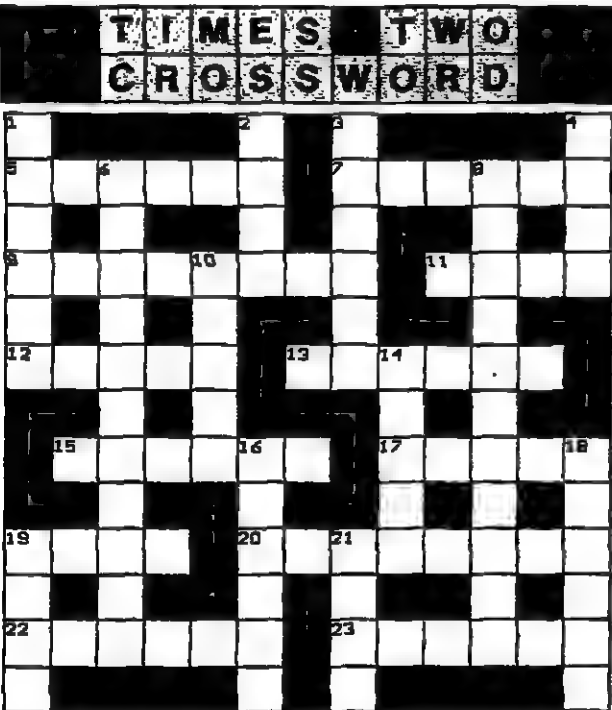
However, the Chancellor can take comfort in the fact that inflation remains sub-

dued. It is expected that underlying inflation, currently 2.8 per cent, will fall during the rest of the year and remain below 2.5 per cent throughout 1997.

Mr Clarke starts a two-day brainstorming session with senior officials on Friday, when they will discuss the scope for and type of tax changes which can be made in this year's pre-election Budget.

The meeting will be attended by Sir Terry Burns, Treasury Permanent Secretary, Valerie Strachan, head of Customs & Excise, and Sir Tony Battisill, head of the Inland Revenue.

Economic outlook, page 39



No 828

ACROSS

- 5 Unread, false (6)
- 7 Polar lights; Sleeping Beauty princess (6)
- 9 Broken chord (mus.) (8)
- 11 Big chunk (of egg cake, stone) (4)
- 12 Stratum; a hen (5)
- 13 Discussion (6)
- 15 Summerhouse (6)
- 17 Distant, uninvolved (5)
- 19 Stay; live; tolerate (4)
- 20 Troilus & Cressida's go-between (8)
- 22 Centre/circumference distance (6)
- 23 Perfectly round thing (6)

DOWN

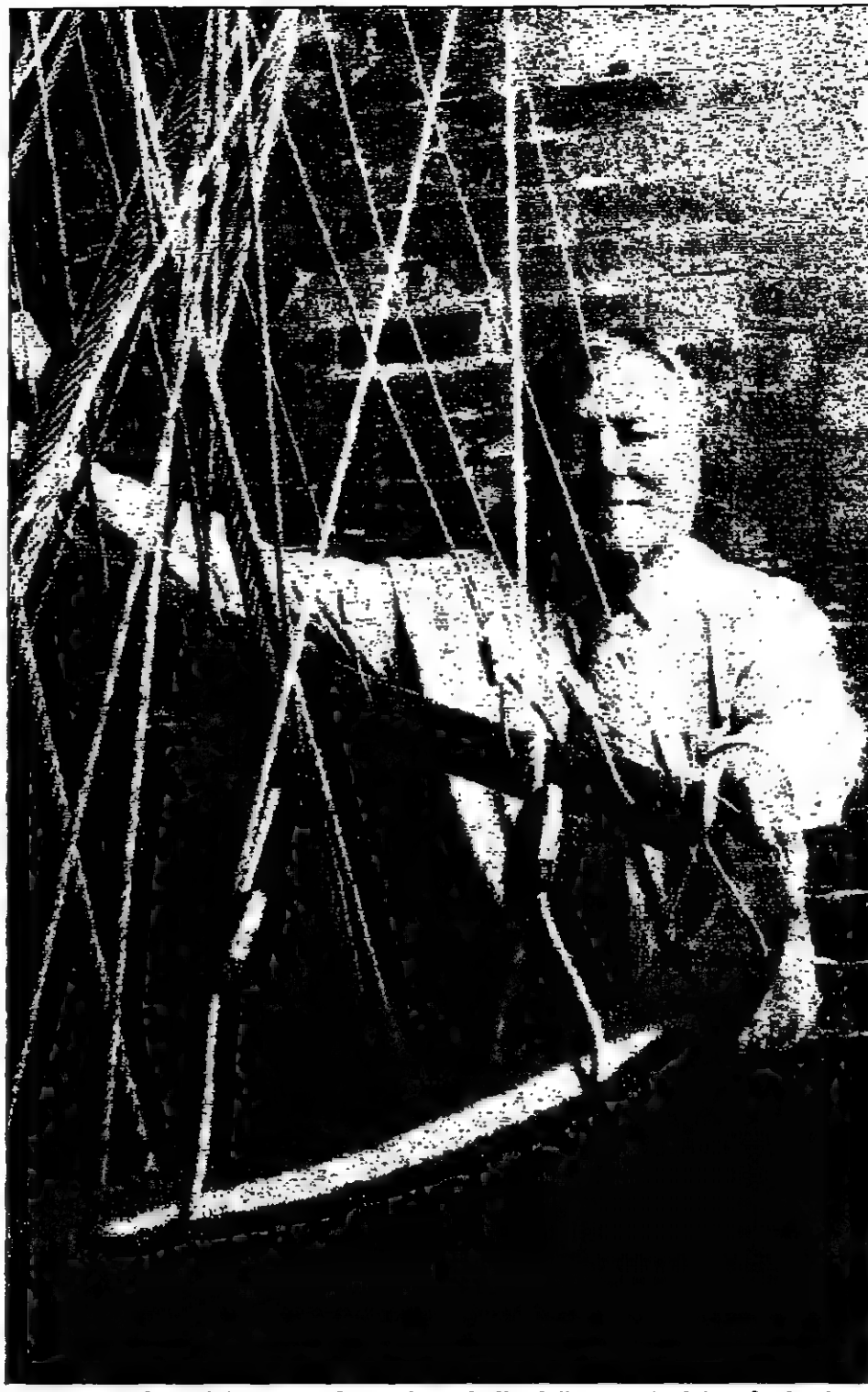
- 1 Take up room sitting; urban spread (6)
- 2 Yearn (4)
- 3 Wheelie (6)
- 4 Door side-post (4)
- 6 Having gained nothing (5-6)
- 8 Regrettably accurate (4,3,4)
- 10 Stuff oneself; ravine (5)
- 14 Uncontroversial; dull (5)
- 16 Encourage; Gloucester-going Dr (6)
- 18 Speak gruffly; part of tree (4)
- 21 Inquisitive (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 827

ACROSS: 1 Sub-editor 6 Sum 8 Morning 9 Dying 10 Hook 11 Hieratic 13 Watery 14 Punnet 17 Forestry 18 Bite 20 Dactyl 21 Tonnage 22 Pl 23 Shapeless
DOWN: 1 Somehow 2 Bertolt Brecht 3 Drip 4 Tigris 5 Ryder Cup 6 Spitting image 7 Magic 12 Trespass 15 Theeues 16 Protest 17 Fed up 19 Knee

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Roger Hall, financial director of Gripple, a Sheffield die-cast wire joiner for fencing and industrial wire rope, which is one of five winners due tomorrow to receive £7,000 each in prizes and professional services in the DTI export awards for smaller businesses

Somerfield offers reassurance

By Sarah Cunningham

SOMERFIELD will today seek to reassure potential investors that its controversial £300 million stock market flotation remains on track when it reports a sharp rise in operating profits and improved margins.

In spite of claims by the company and its advisers that interest in the flotation is strong among both institutional and private investors, there

is growing acceptance that Somerfield's lacklustre medium-term prospects will undermine the flotation price.

There is also dismay that a large slice of the float proceeds will go to existing and former directors, while Somerfield must pay extra indemnity fees of £5 million to Kleinwort Benson, its adviser, and £3 million to SBC Warburg, adviser to Isocoles, Somerfield's parent

company. But today the company, Britain's fifth-largest supermarket chain and the subject of a remarkable recovery from near collapse three years ago, will claim the outlook is encouraging.

Annual operating profits have risen 43 per cent to £100.5 million and the net operating margin for the year to April 27 was 3.2 per cent, up one point on the previous year.

While supermarkets trading under the Somerfield brand are understood to have seen more than 5 per cent like-for-like sales growth in the year, analysts believe that trading at the old, unconverted Gateway supermarkets, accounting for 35 per cent of the chain, was down by 4 per cent. The company plans to have the whole chain converted by the end of next year.

Glaxo loses fight to protect Zantac from copycat drugs

By Oliver August

GLAXO WELLCOME, the pharmaceuticals group, has lost the battle to protect Zantac, its lucrative anti-ulcer drug, from copycat medications, it emerged yesterday.

Novopharm, a Canadian company specialising in producing generic forms of leading drug brands, has emerged victorious from a six-year court battle after a federal court in North Carolina ruled that it can produce a generic version of the original Zantac, known as Form 1. Novopharm will have its product on the market within 12 months.

Zantac, the world's most widely prescribed drug, currently has annual sales of £2.2 billion. 24 per cent of Glaxo Wellcome's total sales.

Last night Glaxo said that it believed that it had grounds to appeal against the ruling, which paves the way for the cheaper rival to Zantac to enter the market. However, Novopharm has threatened a \$1 billion lawsuit against Glaxo if the British company does appeal, alleging willful obstruction of Novopharm's legitimate efforts to sell its version of Zantac.

Leslie Dan, Novopharm's chairman, said: "The court's ruling was so strong in our favour that any further attempts by Glaxo to use litigation as a means to block Zantac competition would be ludicrous."

Judge Terence Boyle refused to accept that production of Form 1 would violate Glaxo's patent for Form 2 Zantac, which lasts until 2002. He said: "Glaxo has failed to establish

that the existence of Form 2 in Novopharm's product is even a reasonable possibility."

A Glaxo Wellcome spokesman said: "We believe the company has a valid case against Novopharm and that it has strong grounds for appeal. We emphasise that the law does not permit Novopharm or any other generic drug maker to bring a generic form of the product to market before the expiry of the basic patent in July 1997."

Scots bank chief seeks investors

Sir Bruce Patullo, Governor of the Bank of Scotland, will today begin meeting institutional investors as the insurer, Standard Life, launches the offer document for the £850 million placing of the bulk of its 31.5 per cent interest in the bank.

Sir Bruce, whose initial anger at the proposed disposal prompted him to quit the Standard Life board, will travel to Europe and America to secure institutional investors for the shares. Standard Life will retain a 2.5 per cent interest in the bank as a long-term investment.

Staples offer

Staples, the American retailer, confirmed yesterday that it has made an offer, believed to be in the region of £15 million, to buy out Kingfisher's half-share of their UK office supplies joint venture. Staples claims an initial offer of around £25 million, made earlier this year, was originally accepted by Kingfisher. But after negotiations stalled, the Americans then reduced the offer to take account of losses incurred by the joint venture. Staples runs 33 out-of-town superstores in the UK, selling stationery and computer supplies.

Guinness rules out GrandMet takeover

By Alasdair Murray

GUINNESS will make a Stock Exchange statement today after reports that it is considering a £13 billion bid for Grand Metropolitan, the rival drinks group. The company will rule out a hostile bid for GrandMet and reject suggestions that it will demerge its brewing and spirits operations.

Guinness was forced to clarify its position after details of a leaked report by Lazards, the

company's main advisers, were published at the weekend. The Lazards plan involved Guinness raising £10 billion in cash to fund a takeover of GrandMet, recouping the costs through the sale of GrandMet's food interests, which include Burger King and Pillsbury.

A successful takeover would hand Guinness brands including Smirnoff vodka, Malibu,

and Bailey's to add to its existing portfolio, which includes Johnnie Walker, Bell's and Gordon's Gin.

Guinness's statement is unlikely to end City speculation about the company's strategy to revive its flagging performance. Bernard Arnault, a Guinness director and head of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, which owns 20 per cent of Guinness, has publicly called for it to take action and is believed to favour a demerger.

GrandMet is also likely to come under the spotlight again, although the company has insisted it has no immediate plans to make disposals. There have been rumours that it is prepared to sell Burger King. Gerald Corbett, finance director of GrandMet, said: "We do not want to appear complacent, but we feel the company is in good shape and is on course for its best year ever."

Graham Seargeant, page 42

THE TWO SPIRITS GIANTS	
GUINNESS	GRANDMET
JOHNNIE WALKER	SMIRNOFF
BEL'S WHISKY	STOLICHNAYA
GORDON'S GIN	BAILEY'S
BLACK & WHITE	CINZANO
TANQUERAY GIN	MALIBU
ASSBACH	J&B RARE
CLASSIC MALTS	GRAND MARNIER
	ABSOLUT VODKA
	BOMBAY GIN
	FERNET BRANCA
	JOSE CUERVO
	WILD TURKEY

Thames top of leak table

By Alasdair Murray

THAMES Water has emerged as Britain's most leak-prone water company, after it dramatically revised its water loss estimates for 1995-96.

Thames's new figures show it is losing the equivalent of 333 litres a day for every household in its region. Its total distribution losses are 807 megalitres a day, compared with a previously published 628 megalitres. The revised figures bring

into question Thames's ability to meet its forecast leakage rate of 218 litres per household per day by 1997-98. The company is spending £166 million on a programme to halve the leakage rate by 2004 or 2005.

In May, Ian Byatt, Director-General of Ofwat, the water regulator, criticised the major water companies for their failure to meet leakage targets. The Environment Agency has also said that it

will withhold licences to abstract water from rivers and build new reservoirs unless it feels proper action has been taken to fix leaks.

Other companies singled out for poor leakage rates are Yorkshire Water and North West Water, part of United Utilities, which lose about 30 per cent of supplies through leaks, against around 28 per cent for Thames. Anglian Water loses just 13 per cent.

RETIREMENT PLANNING

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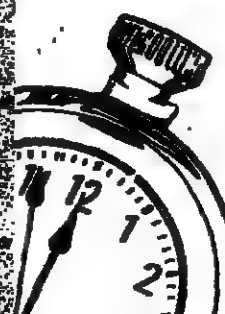
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Today: the German conspirators. Tomorrow: how the British betrayed them

Hitler and the Stauffenberg solution

In the first of two extracts from his controversial new book *Plotting Hitler's Death*, leading historian Joachim Fest tells the true story of the bungled plot to assassinate the Nazi dictator



After several unsuccessful attempts to overthrow the Nazi regime, the conspirators' sole remaining ambition by July 20, 1944, was to save as much of Germany's "substance" as possible from the impending catastrophe. Recent evidence suggests how well-founded their motives were: one study shows that while slightly more than 2.8 million German soldiers and civilians died between the beginning of the war on September 1, 1939, and the attempt to assassinate Hitler on July 20, 1944, 4.8 million died during the nine-and-a-half months before the war ended in early May 1945.

The destruction wreaked in the last nine months of the air war far exceeded that of the previous 59 months, not to mention the countless casualties in other countries or the victims of Hitler's extermination policy, which continued to the very end.

One of the factors inhibiting appreciation of the German resistance has been the cacophony of voices in which it found expression. Opponents of the regime were motivated not only by a simple concern for human rights but also by Christian, socialist, conservative and even reactionary beliefs. There is much truth to the claim that the German resistance to the Third Reich never existed in the sense of a unified group sharing common ideals.

Of all the various resistance groups, only three succeeded in developing a strategy that posed a genuine threat to the regime. These were the conservative circle around Carl Goerdeler, a former Mayor of Leipzig, and Ludwig Beck, a retired army chief of staff; the Kreisau Circle, led by Count Helmuth von Moltke and dominated by a Christian and socialist philosophy; and the regime's opponents within the military.

It was this last branch of the resistance whose motives were the clearest and whose efforts came closest to succeeding. And it was this branch that ultimately found expression in one symbolic act — for that is what the events of July 20, 1944, represented.

What was lacking above all was the actual assassin. Around August 10, 1943, however, General Tresckow (one of the leaders of the military resistance) had been introduced to a young lieutenant-colonel. The young man had been badly wounded in an air attack on the North African front in April. He had lost his right hand as well as the third and fourth fingers of his left, and he wore a black patch over his left eye. After a lengthy stay in hospital, he had asked the surgeon, Ferdinand Sauerbruch, how much longer he would need to recuperate. On hearing that two more operations and many months of convalescence would be necessary, he shook his head, saying he didn't have that much time — important things needed to be done. While still in the hospital, he explained to his uncle and close confidant Nikolaus von Uexküll, "Since the generals have failed to do anything, it's now time for the colonels." His name was Count Klaus Schenk von Stauffenberg.

Stauffenberg seemed to send an electric charge through the lifeless resistance networks as he quickly and naturally assumed a leadership role. He was familiar with all the complex religious, historical



Stauffenberg (far left) with Hitler (centre) at the "Wolf's Lair" HQ, July 15, 1944. Five days later the Führer's trusted officer planted the bomb intended to kill him

and social reasons why nothing had been done, but he had not lost sight of the far more basic truth that there are limits to loyalty and duty. He dismissed the foreign policy concerns of almost all the other members of the resistance, simply assuming that a German government that had overthrown the Nazis would be able to negotiate a peace treaty, despite the Casablanca declaration (in which the Allies demanded unconditional surrender). Most important, he was determined to act.

Stauffenberg was a scion of the Swabian nobility. Like many other young officers, he had welcomed Hitler's nomination as Chancellor in 1933 and had agreed, in theory at least, with some of the Nazi platform, especially unification with Austria and hostility to the Treaty of Versailles. [By 1938], however, he had already begun to have serious doubts about the Nazis. "That fool is headed for war," he said. But when war was finally declared, he threw himself into his chosen profession like a devoted soldier.

Stauffenberg proved to be a brilliant staff officer and was promoted to the army high command in June 1940. At first his critical view of the regime was spurred by technical, military and nationalistic concerns. Gradually, though, moral issues came more and more to the fore, and in the end all these considerations played their part in a decision best

summarised by his laconic answer to a question asked of him in 1942, about how to change Hitler's style of leadership: "Kill him."

On July 1, 1944, Stauffenberg was promoted to the rank of colonel and simultaneously assumed his new duties as chief of staff to the commander of the reserve army, General Fromm, who had always been a vigilant, cautious, opportunistic man, whose suspicions that Stauffenberg was plotting a coup had long since hardened into certainty. It seems all the more curious, therefore, that he went to such lengths to have him appointed to his staff. Fromm may simply have wanted to use Stauffenberg, who had written a report that drew extremely laudatory reviews from

Hitler, to escape the disfavour into which he had himself fallen. "Finally a general staff officer with imagination and intelligence!" Hitler is said to have remarked. Of crucial importance to Stauffenberg was the fact that the new position gave him the access to Hitler that the conspirators had long sought.

On July 20, 1944, Stauffenberg flew into the Rastenburg airfield just Hitler's East Prussian HQ, the "Wolf's Lair"

shortly after 10am, with his co-conspirators Werner von Haeften and Helmuth Stieff. He immediately headed for the officers' mess in Restricted Area II, carrying in his briefcase only the papers he needed for the reports he was expected to give. Haeften, meanwhile, carried the two bombs in his briefcase and accompanied Stieff to OKH (army high command) headquarters. The plans called for Haeften and Stauffenberg to meet shortly before the briefing in the Wolf's Lair to exchange briefcases.

At around 11 o'clock Stauffenberg was summoned by the chief of army staff, General Walther Buhle, and after a short meeting they proceeded together to a conference with General Keitel in the OKW (Wehrmacht high

command) bunker in Restricted Area I. Here Stauffenberg learnt that on account of a visit by Mussolini, what was to have been a noon briefing with Hitler had been put back half an hour to 12.30pm. Immediately after the conference with Keitel, Stauffenberg asked the general's aide, Major Ernst John von Freyend, to show him to a room where he could wash up and change his shirt. July 20 was a hot day.

As Keitel and the other officers headed toward the briefing barracks, Stauffenberg and Haeften, who met in the corridor, withdrew into the lounge in Keitel's bunker, where Stauffenberg set about installing and arming a fuse in the first bomb. He had barely begun, however, when a telephone call came from General Felgiebel, another conspirator, who asked to speak with Stauffenberg on urgent business. Freyend sent Platoon Sergeant Werner Vogel back to the bunker to urge Stauffenberg to hurry.

As Vogel entered the lounge, he saw the two officers stowing something into one of the briefcases. He informed them of the call, adding that the others were waiting for them outside.

Meanwhile Freyend shouted from the entrance, "Stauffenberg, please come along!" With Vogel standing in the doorway, Stauffenberg closed the briefcase as swiftly as possible while Haeften swept up the papers that were lying around and stuffed them into the other briefcase.

Felgiebel's telephone call and the intrusion of Platoon Sergeant Vogel may well have determined the course of history, for it is likely that they prevented Stauffenberg from arming the fuse on the second package of explosives. No one knows why Stauffenberg did not place the second bomb in his briefcase alongside the one whose timer had already been activated, since the explosion of one would surely have set off the other as well. Stauffenberg was certainly nervous and Vogel's sudden eruption into the room must have given him a fright, but the most probable explanation for his bringing only the one bomb is that he was not fully aware of how such explosives work. Believing that a single bomb would suffice, he probably did not adequately consider the cumulative effect of two bombs. What is clear, according to all experts, is that inclusion of the second charge would have magnified the power of the blast not twofold but many times, killing everyone in the room outright.

Together with General Buhle and Major Freyend, Stauffenberg hurried out of the OKW bunker, briefcase in hand. They crossed the 350 yards to the wooden

briefing barracks, which lay behind a high wire fence in the innermost security zone. After declining for the second time Freyend's offer to carry his briefcase, Stauffenberg finally turned it over to him at the entrance to the barracks, asking to be seated as close as possible to the Führer so that he could "catch everything".

In the conference room the briefing was already under way, with General Adolf Hoesinger reporting on the eastern front. Keitel announced that Stauffenberg would be giving a report, and Hitler shook the colonel's hand "wordlessly but with his usual scrutinising look". Freyend placed the briefcase near Hoesinger and his assistant, Colonel Brandt, who were both standing to Hitler's right. Despite his efforts to edge closer to Hitler, Stauffenberg could only find a place at the corner of the table. His briefcase remained on the far side of the massive table leg, where Freyend had placed it. Shortly thereafter Stauffenberg left the room, whispering something indistinctly as if he had an important task to attend to.

Once outside the barracks he returned the way he had come, turning off before Keitel's bunker and heading toward the Wehrmacht adjutant building to find out where Haeften was with the car. In the signals officer's room, he found not only Haeften but Felgiebel as well. Meanwhile, back in the briefing room, Hitler was already asking for the colonel and General Buhle set out to look for him. It was just after 12.40pm.

Suddenly, as witnesses later recounted, a deafening crack shattered the midday quiet and a bluish-yellow flame rocketed skyward. Stauffenberg gave a violent start and, when Felgiebel asked weakly what the noise could be, simply shook his head. Meanwhile a dark plume of smoke rose and hung in the air over the wreckage of the briefing barracks. Shards of glass, wood and fibre board swirled about, and scorched pieces of paper and insulation rained down. The quiet that followed was broken by the sound of voices calling for doctors. Stauffenberg and Haeften climbed into the waiting car and ordered the driver to take them to the airfield. As they did so, a body covered by Hitler's cloak was carried from the barracks on a stretcher. That was probably what led them to conclude that the Führer was dead.

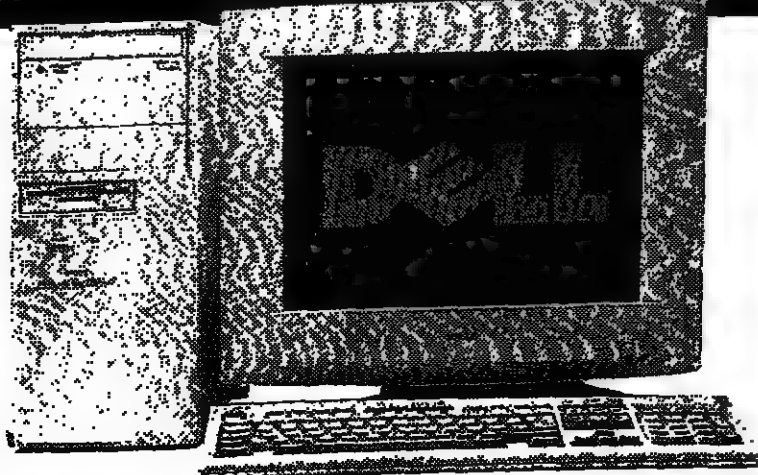
When the bomb exploded, 24 people were in the conference room. All were hurled to the ground, some with their hair in flames. Window mullions and sashes flew through the room. Hitler had just leant over the table to examine a position that Hoesinger was pointing out on the map when his chair was torn from under him. His clothing, like that of all the others, was shredded: his trousers hung in ribbons down his legs. The great oak table had collapsed, its top blown to pieces. The first sound to be heard amid all the smoke and devastation was Keitel's voice, pleading "Where's the Führer?"

As Hitler stumbled to his feet, Keitel flew to him, taking him in his arms and crying, "My Führer, you're alive, you're alive!"

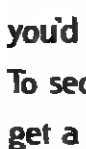


Stauffenberg pictured with his three children in 1940

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CP 11/10/50

relationship with radio's most famous soap — and an editor tells the inside story of Ambridge

'It is easy for an editor to make a character disappear'

LIZ RIGBEY, EDITOR 1986-89

No one disagrees with the editor of *The Archers*. I came from busy newsrooms where I was used to arguing my case and I was astonished when I arrived in Ambridge to find that my ideas nearly always went unchallenged. I had absolute power within that little world and it was by far the most terrifying aspect of the job.

At that time I was the youngest-ever editor and the first woman. I had been offered the editor's chair out of the blue: there was no application or interview procedure but mysterious phone calls and an informal lunch. I started work knowing nothing about scripts, actors or studios. The previous editor had left for the ailing TV soap, *Crossroads*. He took most of the staff, and nearly all of the writers. Some of the *Archers* actors were also offered big television money to go to the ill-fated *Crossroads* Motel, and thus some favourites, like Elizabeth and Nigel, were unavailable to me. Ambridge was a sort of *Mary Celeste* when I arrived. Luckily, I was still under 30 and full of confidence and none of this really bothered me.

The editor has all the power of a

medieval monarch and my colleagues had learnt during previous reigns not to risk their heads with too much plain-speaking.

The actors were especially cowed. They are an exceptionally good-natured cast and over the years have not always been treated kindly. They are paid for each episode in which they appear. Editors have direct control over storylines and thus the income of individual actors. It is all too easy for an editor to confuse the personal and the professional. One actress had a few too many drinks at a celebration and told the then editor some home truths and threw up in his lap. She was never heard of again. It is easy enough for a vindictive editor to make a

character disappear without actually writing them out. The character is referred to often enough to keep a sense of his presence in the programme when he may actually be unheard for many months. Eventually the audience notices and the character becomes a national joke. But behind the hilarious Unheard of Ambridge is an actor who is not laughing.

This cynical method, employed by some of the more unscrupulous editors over the years, was not restricted to the peripheral characters. No one was safe. Your character might be one of the best-

known and best-loved but, as one such actor discovered, once your place in the audience's consciousness has been established, you only need a few appearances a year to remain there. After some ill-considered words to the editor, one character appeared so infrequently he was forced to sell his house.

There are many such instances of editors abusing their power. I do not find this surprising now that I have experienced absolute power myself. It is hard not to be corrupted by it.

The actors tried not to upset me, fearing the consequences, but, unwitting-

ly, most of them did. The writing team was in such chaos that I often had to write or rewrite scripts myself. Of course, my name wasn't on them. When I arrived in studio to direct, the actors, thinking the writer was not present, would cruelly savage my work, line by line. (Shola and Caroline, riding on Lakey Hill, were supposed to enthuse about the view. The line read "I love the special green of new spring leaves against a clear sky.") "What a dreadful piece of radio overwriting," one of them said between takes. "Appalling," agreed the other.

I would go home and cry but I knew that no writer could hope for more direct criticism and I improved as fast as I

could just to cut down on my suffering in studio. I have a lot to thank the cast for: they taught me more than they know.

I look back on my *Archers* days with great affection and nostalgia. It was an intense experience because then the programme was understaffed and so I worked junior doctor hours. We had a system but were generally in a state of crisis: there were nervous breakdowns, illnesses, and, because of the programme's advanced age, a number of deaths. All of these had an effect on the programme itself and on those who worked on it.

I knew it was time to leave when I had broadcast my third Ambridge Over-60s outing. My learning curve had been vertical, my critics were silent and I had begun to win awards. I had a good writing team and a happy cast and, like a conscientious farmer, planned to leave my land in good heart.

Of course, once I had played my Get Out Of Jail Free card I missed the old place. It was like leaving my own family and I still look on my resignation as the bravest thing I have ever done. But I knew what I needed — time to adjust to the real world.

Surprise after surprise

GUY'S STORY

HUGH DICKSON played Guy Pemberton, introduced to the cast in 1993, but killed off by a heart attack earlier this year, in the middle of a storyline about his rocky relationship with his son Simon.

I wouldn't say Guy interested me greatly, but he was a pleasant character to play. When I got the part I was told he was a wealthy, friendly, likeable man who also knew his own mind. I didn't know he would marry Caroline, and Guy became a lot more interesting as a result.

He was basically killed off to get the storyline moving. I was a bit surprised to be written out when I was. We were right in the middle of a dramatic storyline involving Simon, and suddenly I dropped dead of a heart attack. Of course, I was told well before I saw the script, but even so...

The arrival of Simon had been another surprise for me. I'd always known I had a son, and he was often mentioned in the script, but when he joined the series he seemed a rather unlikely character to be my son. Guy was so pleasant, and Simon was deliberately written to be the opposite. The episode when he hit Shula was certainly intended to shock. I know one or two members of the cast have thought they had good ideas they could put up, but I've never heard of anyone ringing up the writers to suggest ideas.

Among the cast, things were always very friendly. There's



Ambridge stars: Timothy Bentinck (David Archer), Felicity Finch (Ruth Archer), Graham Seed (Nigel Pargetter) and Alison Dowling (Elizabeth Pargetter)

certainly not a hierarchy, though I suppose the brat-pack might tend to stick together a bit more. I knew Norman Painting and Jack May from our days as undergraduates in Oxford, and there were other people I'd worked with before. I very much enjoyed working with Sara Coward, who plays Caroline, but we didn't socialise outside the studio because I always had to get back to London.

So dull, I was axed

MARK'S STORY

RICHARD Derrington, 46, played Mark Hebden from 1980 to 1994. Mark married Shula Archer in 1985, but was killed off in a car crash in 1994 because he was considered boring. Richard is married with two children.

Mark was brought in as one more boyfriend for Shula Archer. She'd had quite a string of them and they were looking for the right one. My brief was: "Look, he's very nice, very ordinary, just do him for six months." That was always Mark's downfall. He was never going to be really interesting.

Two or three years before he was killed off, I knew they'd run out of story ideas for him. I'd tried doing new things, but you can't suddenly change a character you've played for ten years.

One of the problems that Mark and Shula had was that very few of the writers were good at the conventional, middle-class characters. It's much easier to write for comics and out-and-out baddies. I think some actors spent time cultivating the writers. They would phone them up and suggest storylines. But the show just wasn't central enough to my life for me to bother.

It's a funny thing, but I

didn't even know the rest of the cast that well. You were only recording for one week each month, so you went in, did your bit, and headed home. I was married to Shula, but I don't really know Judy Bennett. She's never come to my house, I've never been to her's.

One of the first things you realise is that you're in the power of the editor. There are no contracts, so if you're awkward you could find yourself written out for three months. William Smethurst was my first editor and, while I like him very much, he was ruthless.

On the other hand, every successful editor of *The Archers* is ruthless. People were very shocked at the way Vanessa Whitburn treated me, but I wasn't. Mark had always been a bit dull and there are times when an editor has to say "This won't do". Every editor feels they must put their stamp on the programme.

Of course, I sometimes disagreed with editors, but I would never have said so. I always believed that the programme existed because it was a slice of a forgotten age, a sort of comfort blanket. Vanessa's decision to upset that was very dangerous. But it may be that it was a brilliant stroke on her part — I don't listen often enough to know.

Why Grace had to die

THE FOUNDER

GODFREY BASELEY, 91, devised *The Archers* in 1951 and was the original series editor.

I have watched the programme change for the worse over the years. There is now too much sex and violence. *The Archers* I knew was very clean. It was created as an educational programme for the farming community and it succeeded on those terms.

Each episode was full of hints and information for farmers and kept them in touch with the latest developments. The notion that a programme can both inform and entertain seems to be dying now.

When we originally devised it, the aim was to create a sort of country *Dick Barton* without the violence. On my instructions, the writers Geoffrey Webb and Edward Mason worked on scripts and on creating characters, many of whom were based on people I knew or had met.

The original actors were all amateurs and had day jobs. Dan Archer worked as a pottery designer, Doris Ar-

cher had her own shop and Simon the farmworker had a job in an employment exchange. We used amateurs because our budget was so small and we could not afford to pay professional actors. We paid each actor two guineas per episode.

I was amazed and delighted at how the show was received. Before long we had replaced *Dick Barton* as the regular series on radio and the cult of *The Archers* began to develop.

Although most of the team got on well, there were sometimes unrest behind the scenes. The actress who played Grace Archer, Ysanne Churchman, worried me. She was a strong supporter of trade unions and I was concerned that she might unsettle the other actors. So I decided to kill her off. She died in a fire, the story, which coincided with the first night of commercial television, was front-page news.

Interviews by Jason Cowley, Grace Bradberry and Joe Joseph

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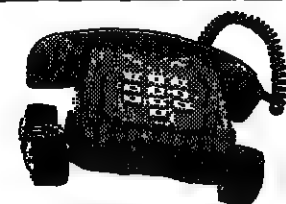
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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



■ OPERA

Richard Eyre's sumptuous staging of *La Traviata* returns to the Royal Opera House
OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



■ POP

Mellow and tender Jackson Browne strums his lonesome stuff in the Albert Hall
GIGS: Tonight, tomorrow
REVIEW: Wednesday



■ DANCE

Dame Marie Rambert's company celebrates its 70th birthday with its first Coliseum season
OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Friday



■ MUSICAL

Another *Les Mis*? Boublil and Schonberg unveil *Martin Guerre* at the Prince Edward
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

COMEDY

Also-ran finishes first

EVEN multimillionaires get the blues. Wealthy and influential he may be in reality, yet Bill Cosby still portrays himself as one of life's friendly also-rans, bewildered by low-fat diets, forever outsmarted by his wife and children, not to mention his housekeeper.

His stand-up comedy routine drew on the same basic formula as his long-running television series, but with less of the sentimentality, flatulence and his sense of his own mortality are not exactly prime-time material. Left to his own devices, with only a chair for a prop, he was free to deliver a masterclass in low-

Bill Cosby
Albert Hall

key comic timing. Though many of his observations about domestic life are grounded in his memories of his parents and grandparents, most belong to the all-American Dagwood and Blondie tradition of marital misunderstandings. Race is never much of an issue. Cosby assumes we are grown-up enough not to need homilies about discrimination.

On the only occasion he ventured in that direction, it was in a beautifully observed sketch of his daughter's college graduation ceremony, where hard-working immigrants from Asia and Africa walk off with the best degrees and the Generation X natives strut across the stage, celebrating their underachievement. He was too genial, too avuncular to labour the point. Sometimes, it must be said, a little more grit would have been welcome.

Slightly over-long, the two-hour show lapsed into a superfluous, and not particularly original dentist's chair sequence at the very end. For most of the evening, however, Cosby had given the kind of sure-footed improvisatory performance appropriate to his slot in the newly-funked JVC Jazz & Soul Festival. Tying with subjects such as a saxophonist playing a riff, he reduced the cavernous auditorium to the cosier dimensions of a nightclub. No mean feat.

CLIVE DAVIS

Debra Craine on Rambert Dance Company's plans to mark its 70th birthday

Lion set for Coliseum

Five years ago the very idea of Rambert Dance Company playing the Coliseum was unthinkable. As a contemporary dance troupe sworn to eschew pointe shoes and princes, it offered the kind of art that was lucky to fill a house half as big as the 2,300-seater Coliseum. But that was before Christopher Bruce took over as artistic director. And Bruce is not one to think small.

So this summer, with Rambert celebrating its seventieth anniversary and its return to London after a four-year absence, Bruce wanted to make a big splash. Hence the Coliseum season, which starts tomorrow night.

"The Coliseum represents a huge financial gamble for us," Bruce admits. "To take contemporary dance there, when no other British contemporary dance company has ever been to the Coliseum... But I have no doubts about the quality of this company; we are in the Coliseum because we deserve to be there. And I think we deserve audiences of around 2,000 a night."

Trying to draw larger audiences has been a priority for Bruce ever since he took charge of a revamped Rambert two years ago. A priority, since audiences just couldn't get any worse. And, with Bruce using his enhanced Arts Council funding and his bigger company to open up the repertoire to a wider variety of styles, audiences have started to come back.

"I wanted a company that could turn its hand to anything," Bruce explains. "So if you go one evening you will see one side of Rambert, another evening a totally other face. Now I think I'm drawing people who would also go to see ballet. In the past season, our second year together, we performed to more people on tour in a year than Rambert as a contemporary dance company has performed to in any previous year."

"I feel I have put the company on a certain level, drawn a certain response from audiences. The reputation is there: we're asked a lot for foreign tours. Our repertoire is very wide, we have great versatility as a company, there is plenty of strong, powerful dancing on stage and we are making a real impression internationally."

Now it's time to make a real impression on London audi-



In the two years since he took over as artistic director, Christopher Bruce has seen Rambert progress in leaps and bounds

ences, who won't recognise Rambert from its last appearance in the capital in 1992. "There is a certain artistic cachet about London that we need, and there is a huge Rambert audience in London that deserves to see us. After this season at the Coliseum I want to make it a regular thing that we come into London at least once a year and I want to expand those seasons, do specific projects for different kinds of spaces."

The seventieth anniversary season at the Coliseum has been designed to celebrate Rambert's newfound versatility and its illustrious history. There are works by outside choreographers (Jiri Kylian and Ohad Naharin), a revival of a contemporary classic from the now-defunct London Contemporary Dance Theatre (Robert Cohan's *Stabat Mater*), and a rare revival of *Dark Elegies*, which Antony Tudor created for Ballet Rambert (as it was then known) in 1937 when Rambert women all wore pointe shoes. And, as befits a company with one of the most successful choreographers in the world at its head, the work of Bruce himself will be well represented. And yes, his ever-popular *Rooster* (set to songs by the Rolling Stones) is on the bill.

"Oh yeah, I am always under pressure to make more *Roosters*," says the man whose string of greatest hits also includes *Swansong*,

Ghost Dances and *Cruel Garden*. "But I'm hoping that the company's reputation is at a level where I can quietly experiment a little more, take more chances myself and not feel that I've got to produce the blockbusters."

‘We deserve audiences of around 2,000 a night’

Bruce's own connection to Rambert goes back nearly 40 years. He trained at the school in 1959 and joined Rambert in 1963, when it was still a classical ballet company. After Rambert transformed itself into a contemporary dance outfit in 1966, Bruce emerged as its leading dancer: during the next 20 years he became its most important choreographer. Bruce was also the last to be nurtured by the late Marie Rambert, whom he honours with a new work, *Quicksilver*, which receives its world premiere at the Coliseum on Wednesday night.

"She was never the most far-sighted person in terms of planning and management," Bruce says. "She was all of the moment — inspiration in the studio and the theatre — but she was not able to really secure a future in the way that de Valois did for the Royal Ballet. But her love of movement, her love of the arts, her dedication, her ruthlessness: I wanted to pay tribute to the qualities that have kept the company alive for 70 years."

"I went back to this old sepia photograph of her as a young girl holding this straw hat, a hat she insisted on having in the photograph. It epitomised her stubborn streak. The core of the work is the fact that I am wearing the hat now. All those people who have passed through, we've all worn the hat for a while. I wanted to say something about passing on from one generation to another, a celebration of dance, but then passing on to someone else."

● Rambert Dance Company is at the Coliseum (0171-432 8300) from tomorrow night until Saturday

The British have their say

OPERA: Rodney Milnes on the premieres of new works by Peter Maxwell Davies and John Woolrich

Last week was quite a week: two new German operas at the start of it, two new British ones at the end, not bad for a form that is supposed to be moribund. The first thing to be said about Peter Maxwell Davies's new piece to celebrate the Welsh National Opera's 50th anniversary is that he has fulfilled his commission with positively Brittenesque "usefulness" and practicability. The *Doctor of Myddfai* is on a Welsh subject, shows off the famous chorus to magnificent effect, and also gives them many small roles to sing. It is a real company show, and Friday's premiere at the New Theatre in Cardiff was conducted by the former long-serving music director Richard Armstrong and directed by David Pountney, who has had a relationship with WNO all his working life.

Pountney's libretto, despite being "set in Europe in the near future" and dealing with a tyrannical Ruler, faceless bureaucrats, a mysterious disease and general beastliness to the Brits, is not based on an idea by William Cash. The source is a Welsh legend about ancient healing powers handed down through successive Doctors of Myddfai. The present Doctor goes to a 1984-ish Europe to confront the Ruler about an unacknowledged plague, infects the Ruler himself, becomes corrupted in the seat of power, and disappears to leave his 12-year-old daughter as the new Doctor.

At the centre of each short act — about 90 minutes of music in all — is a compelling dialogue between Doctor and Ruler on the subject of power and idealism strongly reminiscent of the scene for Philip II and Posa in *Don Carlos*; each is cogently set by Maxwell Davies in his late, fished-down style, each the centrepiece of an expertly structured two-part musico-dramatic whole. Maxwell Davies is not shy of the big operatic gesture: the scene of fervent Welsh hymn-singing interrupting the bureaucrats' deliberations packs a huge punch, and each act builds to a stirring climax.

If there have to be problems in so concise and ambitious a work, then they are to do with audibility. The composer slips into Shostakovich-ironic mode for the bureaucratic scenes — much shrieking woodwind — and this combined with his angular, slightly mechanical word-setting means that too much text goes missing. Composer and librettist are doubtless addressing the problem.

I wasn't too sure about the grey, modernistic, Huntley/ Muir decor, but Pountney's production certainly gripped the first-night audience and there are two fabulous central

performances. Paul Whelan's Doctor has authentic fervour and suggests creeping corruption with uncomfortable vividness: the scene in which, dressed as a woman, he infects the Ruler is decidedly unsettling. Gwynne Howell's Ruler is, like Verdi's Philip II, much more than a conventional villain, a figure of awareness and depth. They make a compelling pair of constantly shifting antagonists. The many supporting roles are taken with enthusiasm.

It was bad luck on John Woolrich that his first opera, *In the House of Crossed Desires*, commissioned for



Cardiff premiere: Gwynne Howell and Paul Whelan

Music Theatre Wales to open the Cheltenham Festival, should have been premiering the following evening (at the Everyman Theatre) — comparisons can only be odious. Marina Warner's libretto is inspired by Apuleius's *The Golden Ass* and seen through the prism of the *commedia dell'arte*. Girl-dressed-as-boy (Columbine), overprotective guardian-magician (Pantalone), Harlequin-turned-into-donkey, Mezzetin-dressed-as-girl, two further roles, all performed by a cast of four women. Not so much gender-confusion as gender-yawn. The action ends abruptly with the intervention of a *dea ex machina*, and one is simply left wondering "so what?"

Warner's text is bluntly phrased, and there is not much that Woolrich's easy, natural word-setting can do with it. The picaresque action suggests speed and dash, but the score proceeds at an unvarying moderato and for all the engaging colour he draws from just five players remains defiantly undramatic. This defeated the director Michael McCarthy: none of the characters sprang to theatrical life. The cast (Susan Gorton, Adey Grummet, Debra Stuart and Buddug Verona James) worked themselves silly to little avail. Michael Rafferty conducted as best he could.

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Vanessa Redgrave joins the starry National Theatre cast for John Gabriel Borkman OPENS: Thursday REVIEW: Saturday



FILMS

Cartoon capers in the cathedral: Disney brings out *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* OPENS: Friday REVIEW: Thursday



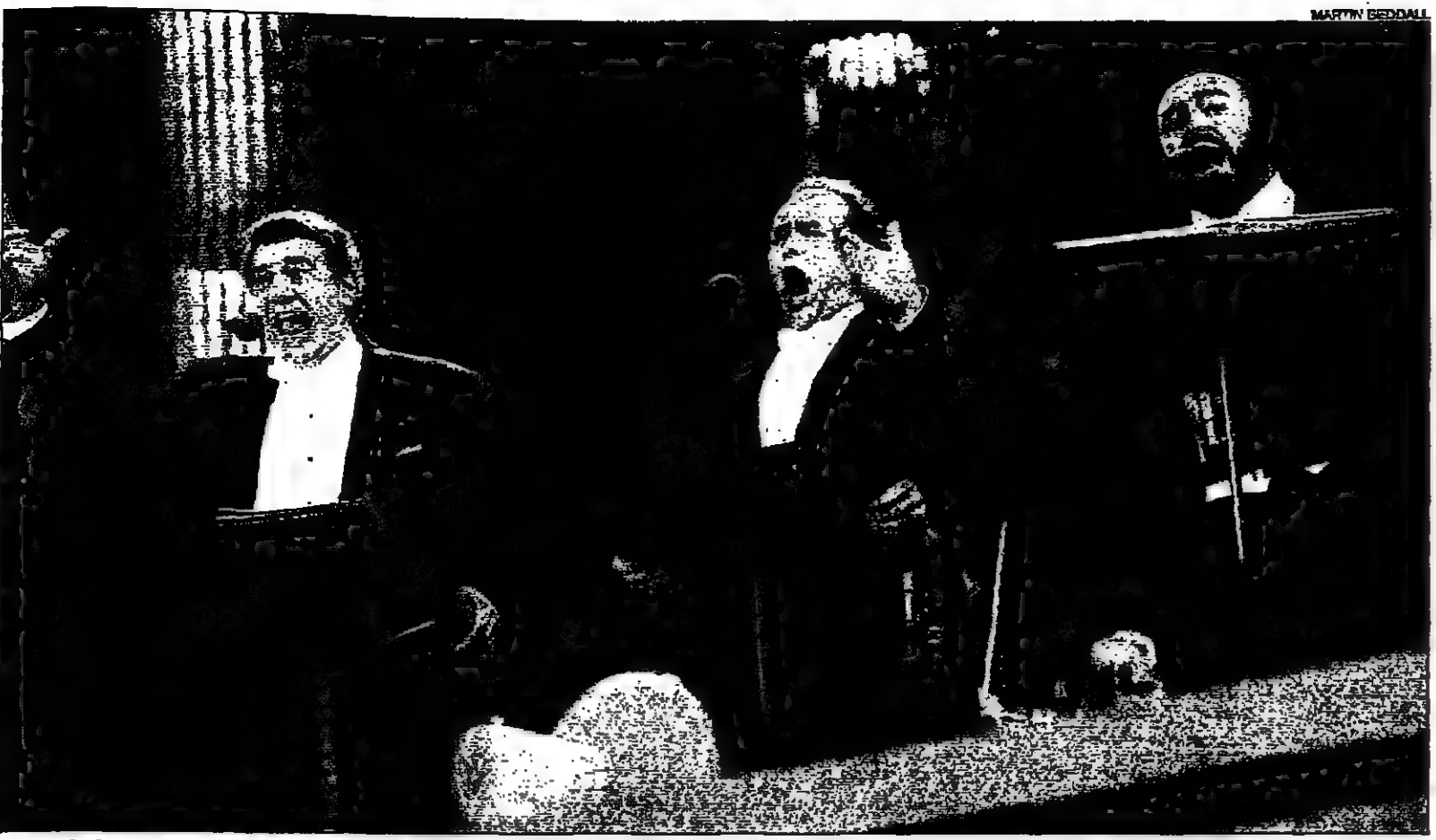
MUSIC

Rattle conducts the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment's birthday concert in the Queen Elizabeth Hall CONCERT: Saturday REVIEW: Next week

ARTS

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY IN SECTION 2

CONCERTS: The Three Tenors play Wembley; plus the CBSO returns home



Though the combined years of Plácido Domingo (left), José Carreras (centre) and Luciano Pavarotti now total 165, their power remains thrilling

Singing' in the rain

What is it about Luciano Pavarotti and the British climate? A few years ago he played Hyde Park, and the heavens opened. On Saturday he and his fellow tenors, José Carreras and Plácido Domingo, sang in Wembley Stadium, and again we all got a soaking.

Well, not quite all. In a wonderful reversal of the norm, those in "cheap" (£100) seats found themselves protected by the stadium roof, while those who had paid hundreds to be seated on the pitch were obliged to wring out their Versaces in the interval. A remarkable sight. The definition of a very rich person, by the way, is not someone who can afford a £995 VIP ticket, but someone who buys a £995 ticket and then leaves after 30 minutes because it's raining.

BACK in Birmingham after their heady month with *Jenfa* in Paris, Sir Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra are not yet in touch with the reality of their Summer Concert series in Symphony Hall. The marginal disappointment in *ensemble* in the *Marriage of Figaro* Overture suggested that they did not quite know where they were at the beginning of the concert. The false brass entry, or whatever it was that intruded on the harmonic predictability of Ravel's *Bolero*.

Yet nearly all the 50,000 crowd stuck it out and enjoyed themselves hugely. The royal box side of the stadium was entirely occupied by the vast stage. The decor? Roman Colosseum meets Tesco superstore. I think. Two huge screens projected our heroes in close-up, while giant banks of speakers sent their top notes and ever-more extravagant trills — along with the spirited accompaniments of James Levine and the Philharmonia Orchestra — to all corners of northwest London.

And what top notes! Though the tenors' combined years now total 165, their power remains thrilling. Early on, Carreras gave cause for concern. His pitch slithered, his upper register sounded forced. But he brought a searing intensity even to sugary ditties like *Granada*, and later seemed to reclaim his former, silvery lustre.

The new, stilted Pavarotti played rather safe. His sun-kissed timbre is still there; so is the handkerchief (not that much brow-mopping was needed in this weather). But some flamboyance has been staid along with the excess blubber. *Nessun dorma* was solid but tame.

On this occasion he was outperformed by Domingo, who was in inspired form. *E lucevan le stelle* sent shivers down the spine, and he lavished such honeyed charm on a *Lehar* aria that Wembley gave him the kind of roar usually reserved for Alan Shearer. There was great enthusiasm, too, when all three tenors came together for two medleys arranged by Lalo Schifrin: ripe mixtures of Broadway hits (sung in English — I think), Neapolitan foot-stampers, Spanish serenades and the inevitable *O sole mio*.

Of course the Three Tenors circus, currently criss-crossing the globe in ten lucrative leaps, is largely a cocktail of showmanship, hype and frantic merchandising. That this trio should reach so much fame and fortune, while other magnificent musicians languish in poverty and obscurity, does seem unfair.

But to deny the phenomenal charisma of these singers, when it has been so palpably demonstrated in such damp circumstances, would be churlish and daft. The Three Tenors may not provide the most sophisticated musical fare in the world, or even in Wembley. But thousands come away from their concerts happy, and you can't always say that after spending £350 to sit in the rain.

RICHARD MORRISON

Travellers out of sorts

confirmed that they were still not sure by the end.

The central feature in the programme was to have been Martha Argerich playing both Bartók's and Prokofiev's Third Piano Concertos. In her absence through indisposition, Rattle and Leif Ove Andnes took the opportunity to develop their mutual relationship with Brahms's Piano Concerto No 1 in D minor.

CBSO/Rattle
Symphony Hall,
Birmingham

And there does seem to be room for development. What they offered on this occasion was a tame interpretation, with the pianist seriously underpowered and occasion-

ally struggling in the first movement while the conductor somewhat self-consciously attempted to inject an element of passion wherever the orchestra has a significant contribution to make.

It is true that the big-fisted assault is not the only way to approach the Piano Concerto in D minor. Andnes demonstrated how much of the heart of the work can be revealed

through tact and gentle intimacy — particularly in the slow movement. But without a full-scale characterisation of the emotional turmoil, the poetic revelations are inevitably less meaningful.

Even so, the shock to the nervous system occasioned by associating that Brahms with the *Duke of the Sorcerer's Apprentice* indicated that Rattle and Andnes must have got something right about the stature and integrity of the piece.

GERALD LARNER

LONDON

MUSIC FOR YOUTH. More than 1,000 of Britain's best young musicians, singers and dancers, aged from four to 19, show off their talents on the coming week at the 25th National Festival of Music for Youth. The European Music for Youth Prize for Piano (10-13 years) and a Music Trainers Exhibition (13-20 years) are among today's events. South Bank, SE1 (0171-980 4242 for further information). Today-Sat, various times and venues. £5.

NORTHANGER ABBEY. Sarah Jane Holm plays Jane Austen's young version of the Gothic shock-horror romance, the video version of her play. Matthew Francis directs his own adaptation. Greenwiche, Greenwich, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until August 17. £5.

ROLL WITH THE PUNCHES. Delia Long, George Costigan and Paul J. Medford in a song-through musical based on the songs of Randy Newman. Chris Bond directs. Regency, 288 Kilburn High Rd, NW5 (0171-328 1000). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Until August 10.

ELSEWHERE. The British James Joyce conducts the London Mozart Players in *Rosini's Overture*. The Italian Girl in *Alcina*. The *Italian Symphony* and *Pure Conscious No 2* and

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Massey

Price director Alan Ayckbourn's brilliant comic discussion of mental illness, *Coleridge*, opens at the National Theatre. *Coleridge*, National Theatre, 200 Strand, WC2R (0171-306 2000). Today-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm.

CHELSEA-HAM. Music Theatre Wales presents a contemporary production of *Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew*. (Everyman, 8pm), repeat performance tomorrow. Meanwhile, over in the Petrie Pump Room (tonight, 8pm), the *Shakespeare* Quartet plays music by Shostakovich, Sibelius and Beethoven. Highlights include a solo recital by Emily Bayman (Petrie Pump Room, 11am) and Richard Rodney Bennett performing in cabaret (Town Hall, 7pm).

EXETER. The British James Joyce conducts the London Mozart Players in *Rosini's Overture*. The Italian Girl in *Alcina*. The *Italian Symphony* and *Pure Conscious No 2* and

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of the evening's theatre

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Matthew Parris



■ If we don't believe in God, what possible foundation do we have for civil order?

It has been odd, in recent weeks, to find Nigel Lawson and George Carey almost in one another's embrace. Nigel Lawson has been writing in *The Times* pleading the cause of atheism. She said she was brought up as an atheist and that, for her, atheism is more than a failure to be persuaded of another's creed: it is almost a creed in itself. It becomes a belief system carrying values of its own, values we can live by.

Values that we can live by have been a theme of Dr Carey's recent public statements too. He has been arguing the need for morality in modern Britain, and suggesting in particular that we should rediscover moral objectivism — a confidence that right and wrong are not just a matter of personal opinion, but objective facts.

It does not escape our notice, however, that Dr Carey is the Archbishop of Canterbury. As the head (after the Queen) of the Church of England and the closest Anglican believer can find to God's representative on Earth, the Archbishop is not a disinterested party in the matter of objective moral systems, for he is here to recommend one, a particular one. You could call it Christian Truth. It starts from the assertion of the existence of a deity, and proceeds to argue that this divine being has ordained a system of morality, the "truth" (or authority) of which springs from its ordination by this God.

The deity remains the essential, the original fact: and what this God has ordained to be our duty becomes our duty not because it will make us happier (though it may), nor because it offers a system of morality conducive to social stability, contentment and civic order (though it may), but because it is the divine will. Were it the case (as some readings, including mine, of Jesus's thought suggest) that this God would have us subvert social stability, murder contentment and wreck civic order, that would not make the morality any less divine or undermine its power to command.

One cannot, therefore, argue backwards from the apparent workability of a divinely ordained system of morality to its truth, its rightness, its authority, or to the existence of the deity. Tribal religions with their accompanying moral systems may work well, but that does not mean they are true or that their gods exist. Dr Carey and his bishops have their opinions about the morals we should live by — may be able to describe a system of human obligation which would work very well for Britain — but their authority to describe it can flow only from their claimed acquaintance with the divine will.

We should look out for two sleights of hand here. One is the attempt to import the divine will into moral pronouncements without actually mentioning it. Thus, bishops may implicitly claim (without stating the claim) to have a special authority for their pronouncements, omitting to remind their audience that only those who believe in their God should accord them this authority. Or they may try the opposite trick and seek to invest authority in their God by persuading us of the workability of their morality: "Britain needs this morality; my God has ordained this morality; therefore worship my God."

Bishops try both tricks. The second ("mankind cries out for it; therefore God wills it; therefore God") was most coherently and honestly set out by the great Bishop Joseph Butler two-and-a-half centuries ago, and is today feebly echoed in a kindly but confused way, with less candour or coherence. Very often in modern times the argument backwards from the desirability of morals to the existence of a divine morality has become a subconscious attempt by doubting clerics to persuade themselves of the truth of their calling. Though I cannot see into the mind of Tony Blair, I fear this is true of many Christian socialists.

But what of Nigel Lawson? You may remember we left her in the embrace of George Carey. Nigel Lawson too has argued from the workability of a belief in its truth. Protesting her own disbelief in God (which I share), she goes on to say that this is not an absence of belief, but a conviction — an alternative, humanistic belief-system of its own, and a very workable one.

This, a rather Shavian view, is a dangerous jump. I am writing this in Derbyshire on Sunday, on the working assumption that News International at Wapping has not been hit by a meteorite, in which case my thoughts will not be required. However, it is only in the sense that I should be amazed to discover the opposite that this is a "conviction". If it became an article of faith that there could be no meteorite, my grip on reality would be the weaker.

It may be true (as I think) that Nigel and I have found rules to live by without God. But this does not mean that God does not exist. It could equally be the case that the loss of faith spreading throughout mankind will utterly destroy moral systems and social stability, and finally wreck human order. This would not mean that atheism was a mistake. It would mean that civil order can be securely founded only upon a lie.

Our workforce is said to lack education, yet the evidence shows the contrary, writes Tim Congdon

One of Britain's great weaknesses in international economic competition is supposed to be the inadequate skills of its labour force. As part of the current debate about Britain's position in the world, this proposition has become very familiar. An example is provided by the World Economic Forum's recent annual rankings of "competitiveness". Overall, Britain had moved up a few places to stand higher than Germany, France and Italy, but is still far behind its neighbours in education and training.

The Labour Party has expressed particular concern. Tony Blair's new manifesto, *New Labour, New Life for Britain*, claims that "we have too little investment in the application of new technologies, education and skills" and adds: "Foreign investors are concerned about the poor level of our skills and education." The Shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown, is interested in theories of so-called "endogenous growth", which focus on the role played by increases in "human capital" in raising national output and living standards. He and other Labour politicians argue that Britain invests too little in human capital, as distinct from physical capital such as buildings and equipment.

A doctrine which appeals to both the World Economic Forum, an international gathering of business-minded eminent persons, and Mr Brown, a socialist politician, must surely have some substance. Much is undoubtedly wrong with Britain's education system and its vocational training, as with most countries'. But is it really true that we particularly suffer from ill-educated and under-skilled workers? Is this an unsatisfactory aspect uniquely of Britain's economy and society?

If workers in this country were on average less well-educated than elsewhere, Britain ought to have lost

ground most heavily in business activities in which human capital is at a premium. In other words, its share of world production ought to have fallen in industries in which skills, experience and the powers to reason and innovate are most important, and to have been maintained or increased where production depends on brawn or the constant repetition of the same task.

But that is not at all the case. Although Britain has lost market share in many industries over the past 30 years, its record is far from one of uniform failure. In some areas it has gained ground against the competition. Contrary to the World Economic Forum/Gordon Brown orthodoxy, these areas of relative strength have usually been knowledge-and-skill-intensive. They have required large inputs of human capital, not major investments in plant, equipment and buildings.

One of the most striking international successes has been in pharmaceuticals. In the early 1970s, the British pharmaceutical industry had a surplus in international trade, but it was a long way behind its German and Swiss counterparts. Moreover, the leading German pharmaceutical companies had grown far more rapidly in the 25 years after the Second World War than the British.

But since the 1970s, British pharmaceutical companies have developed a more profitable list of new drugs and enjoyed higher growth of

sales revenue than their European neighbours. They have in fact done particularly well compared with the German competitors, with Glaxo Wellcome now the largest pharmaceutical company in the world. By contrast, 25 years ago Glaxo was a relatively minor player. Now, its employees are paid an average of some £37,000 a year.

This success has been largely based on the knowledge and insights of research chemists — in other words, on the high quality of the human capital at work. Given the performance of this part of British industry over the past 25 years, it would obviously be absurd to claim that it operates with human capital inferior to that in other countries. There is a warning here against a misplaced national neurosis about our alleged "under-education".

Many international companies in a wide range of industries locate the most highly skilled and research-intensive parts of their operations in Britain, and have been doing so increasingly in the past few years. A common pattern is that design and marketing, which rely on high-quality human capital, are carried out in Britain, whereas production, dependent on machines and low-quality human capital, is done elsewhere. In particular, critics of Britain's supposed "under-education", particularly in modern

high-tech activities, might puzzle about the abundance of computer skills here. The level of personal computer ownership per head is higher in Britain than in Germany, France or Italy.

One branch of economic activity is based, perhaps more than any other, on individuals' skill and judgment, on the application of human capital rather than the repetition of routine tasks on machines. This is financial services. In such businesses as banking, insurance underwriting, and bond, equity and foreign exchange trading, huge risks have to be appraised and taken every day. The sums of money at stake are often enormous multiples of the salaries that the employees are being paid. Almost everything depends on the accuracy of the judgments they make and their skill in execution. But apart from a few computers and items of office equipment, machinery is still virtually irrelevant.

If Britain were deficient in human capital, it ought to lag behind other countries in international financial services. In fact, the financial services industries in the City of London, and in some smaller regional centres such as Edinburgh, are acknowledged world leaders. Moreover, the evidence is overwhelming that these human-capital-intensive industries are expanding rapidly compared to other industries in this country. Their growth is not being constrained by a shortage of suitably qualified people. An estimate of the precise number

of people working in "the City" depends on how it is defined. Nevertheless, a reasonable view is that the high-value-added, high-income international financial services that distinguish the modern City employ about 300,000 people today, compared to about 175,000 in the early 1970s. It is well-known, even notorious, that City incomes are high by British standards; they are also probably the highest — in a well-defined walk of life — anywhere in Europe.

The annual New Earnings Survey has been tracking incomes in different industries and for different types of worker for 28 years. In 1968, the average gross salary for a full-time non-manual male in Great Britain was £1,648 a year, whereas in the City it was £1,966. Last year, the figure for Great Britain was £23,052, but in the City it had soared to £40,986. It may now be heading towards £45,000 a year. Rudi Muller, who used to be the chief executive of UBS in London, has complained about high salaries and costs in the City. Apparently, if surprisingly, typical banking incomes in Zurich and Geneva are lower. But to suggest that high salaries will undermine the City is rather like criticising the restaurant which is so full no one goes there any more.

Britain is not under-educated and under-skilled. Labour's valid complaint is not the lack of human capital in this country, but the unevenness of its distribution. Many City dealers and Glaxo chemists now earn incomes which are several times above the national average. But the Labour Party yet learnt that the best way to make incomes more equal is to bring the national average closer to City and Glaxo standards, rather than taxing success and subsidising failure?

The author is managing director of Lombard Street Research.

I'm a guru; are you one too?

Peter Riddell says Blair has learnt from American experience, not continental theory

Tony Blair is proving an elusive target for the Tories. After wasting two years firing off in all directions, Tory strategists have refocused on a new, and, they claim, equally dangerous beast. They are portraying Mr Blair as an importer of continental social democratic ideas. But he has already shifted his position, to the dismay of left-wing intellectuals.

The Conservatives' dilemma is highlighted by *Blair's Gurus*, a new study of the intellectual roots of Blairism, written by David Willetts, the Public Services Minister who is the Tory leadership's resident ideologist and part-time media briefer. The pamphlet, which will go to all Tory MPs, is the intellectual arm of the "New Labour, New Danger" campaign so clumsily launched last week.

Mr Willetts has written an elegant and incisive analysis of books by eight academics, politicians and journalists: John Gray, Will Hutton, John Kay, Frank Field, Simon Jenkins, Andrew Marr, Peter Mandelson and David Marquand. The eight do not agree on everything and Simon Jenkins is not even remotely a Blairite. But together they have shaped centre-left beliefs, such as that social cohesion is threatened and insecurity increased by globalisation and flexible labour markets, that British capitalism is short-termist, that control of the public sector has been centralised to an unprecedented extent since 1979, that Britain's constitution needs to be drastically modernised, and that Britain should adopt the continental model of social capitalism.

These views are depicted as somehow un-British since they reject our distinctive and individualist traditions and prefer continental social



democracy of c.1960-80. Mr Willetts has a point in distinguishing between the Anglo-American model of capitalism and what is trenchantly known as the Rhine model, or Rhenish model. He also demolishes some of the more exaggerated arguments about insecurity and the defects of British capitalism, especially since Germany and France are trying to liberalise their markets.

However, Mr Willetts is criticising the wrong people, and exaggerating the importance of these gurus. Several have certainly influenced the general debate on the Left, and Mr Blair has paid attention to the views of John Gray, John Kay and Frank Field; but Peter Mandelson, who is on the list because of the book he wrote with Roger Liddle — *The Blair Revolution* — is more of an apologist for Blairism than a guru.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

The real story would tell of Mr Blair's distance from these gurus rather than his closeness to them. The largely unappreciated breach between the Left's thinkers and Mr Blair was vividly illustrated by an article in yesterday's *Observer*. The paper is edited by one of the eight, Hutton, and he was joined by another four, Field, Gray, Kay and Marquand. They argue that "the programme so far championed [by Mr Blair] falls far short of what is required. The risk is not in doing too little. Rather it lies in doing too little." Marquand has complained that "new Labour seems 'stuck in the traditional British rut of piecemeal, voluntary incrementalism, buttressed by a traditional British

unwillingness to learn from continental Europe".

The disenchantment is mutual. Some of Mr Blair's key advisers are scathing about what they see as the patronising and out-of-touch attitudes of some of the gurus. It is partly Mr Blair's own fault. Last January, when he began talking about the "stakeholder society", he initially failed to make clear that what he meant was a general idea of social inclusion and One Nation, rather than new statutory rights. He wants to encourage businesses voluntarily to take a broader view of their responsibilities, but does not back the Hutton-Marquand view that the legal structure of companies and financial institutions should be changed.

Apart from moral philosophers such as John Macmurray, Mr Blair is influenced more by clever, practical

people such as Derry Irvine, the Shadow Lord Chancellor who gave him his first start as a barrister, than by theorising intellectuals. He has recently written of his wariness of grand intellectual plans.

Insofar as Mr Blair has gurus, they are from across the Atlantic. Amitai Etzioni, the American advocate of communitarianism, has adopted "new" Labour thinking on social responsibilities and its policies on law and order and the family. Even more influential on both Mr Blair and Gordon Brown have been architects of President Clinton's economic policies, such as Robert Reich and Larry Summers. They stress social benefits, work incentives and skills training as the route to job creation and growth, which Mr Brown views as more important than traditional debates about the level of the exchange rate.

But Tony Blair's political approach has been affected by the failures, as well as the successes, of Mr Clinton. This is partly tactical (the need never to be distracted from the "message") and partly strategic (the need to address the worries of ordinary working people. Middle America or England). Here the guides are American political advisers such as James Carville and commentators such as E.J. Dionne (whose thesis is summarised in the current *New Statesman*).

Blairism is less than some left-wing intellectuals would like, or Mr Willetts claims. Apart from constitutional reform — significantly omitted from Labour's five key pledges in England, but not in Scotland and Wales — Blairism consists of promising small, incremental improvements, rather than far-reaching visions of social or economic upheaval. It offers a kinder, gentler version of Majorism, with a fresh management team. Of course, there are many doubts and questions about how it would work in practice. But that promise is perhaps what voters want, and it is why Mr Blair is such a hard target for the Tories to hit.

Blair's Gurus by David Willetts, MP, costs £7.50 from the Centre for Policy Studies, 52 Rochester Row, London SW1P 1JU.

Music all

WHILE Wembley reverberated on Saturday night to the Three Tenors, Westminster danced to a different tune. Betty Boothroyd was reliving her days as a Tiller girl. Madam Speaker joined hands with Shirley Bassey and Elaine Paige and sang lustily in a farewell tribute to Sir Fergus Montgomery, the retiring Tory MP for Altrincham and Sale.

The music-hall singsong at a dinner for Sir Fergus also featured



an appearance from the lustily voiced cabaret artiste Barbara Cook, a sucker for sequins. But it was Madam Speaker, in jaunty leg-kicking form, who stole the show when the group burst into a six-hanky performance of *Every Time You Say Goodbye*.

Sir Fergus, fondly regarded as the Member for Broadway and the West End, was reluctant yesterday to discuss the evening, which was attended by some 80 friends. "It was a private party, and that's all there is to say about it. Shirley is an old friend of mine and it was my last party. Numbers were obviously limited." All those thousands who got soaked watching the Three Tenors bid farewell must be scrunching their sore sheets with frustration.

Double billed

THEY may have organised the Olympics with aplomb, but the Catalans' reputation for efficiency collapsed last week when architects from across the globe rioted at the World Architecture Congress.

been sold for a conference offering only 2,000 seats. Police lost control of a simmering mob of architects outside the hall. It was only when Sir Norman Foster agreed to address the baying crowd of builders that order was restored.

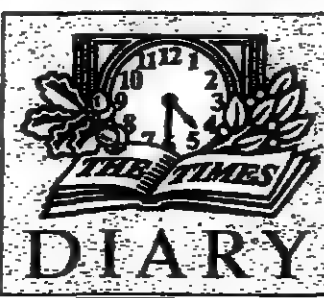
Think pink

A GLORIOUS dawn beckons tomorrow, for the chiffon queen Dame Barbara Cartland will be 95. She plans to celebrate quietly with her sons at home, although she enjoyed a vast birthday cake (with pink icing laid on with a trowel) at a party a few days ago.

Clouding the festivities, however, is the royal divorce. She believes the Princess of Wales has been shabbily treated. "I sent her one of my books for her 35th birthday, and received a thank-you letter by return. But I do wonder if she received anything from the Royal Family."

Celebrations for her 95th will be "pink, pink, pink," she says. "I'm still writing a book about tonight. I may be dead before next year but I have a lot to do before I die."

● The best seat in Paris yesterday at Versace's fashion show was occupied by Lisa Marie Presley, the



Ms Presley can't be described as a clothes-horse, but now that the Duchess of York is stomping the catwalk, anything can happen. So Versace has signed up Lisa Marie for his next advertising campaign.

Evening wear

AMID the clashing garish shirts that Nelson Mandela plans to wear for his state visit to Britain this week nestles a comparatively sober number: a black, shiny affair with long sleeves.

The President's aides tell me that this is his chosen attire for the white-tie state banquet at Buckingham Palace. "He will not wear white-tie, so he wears this instead." He buttons it to the top and wears it without a tie. He looked smart in it

hannenburg with Queen Noor of Jordan.

For pre-prandial drinks, Buckingham Palace would be well advised to invest — against its better judgment — in the sweetest sherry it can find. Mandela is no toper, but he loves the odd glass of sherry, and the sweeter the better.

My, my

FRANTIC sucking of boiled sweets took place in the royal box yesterday at Wimbledon's Centre Court witnessed its first streaker. The



young lady who took to the court in a G-string and pinafore brought roars of laughter from the Duke of Kent. Others in the box modestly diverted their interest by rooting around in the royal sweet bag.

"Boiled sweets in the royal box is a tradition going back to the days of Fred Perry and beyond," explained a Centre Court veteran. Which puts paid to those who had expressed their concern that the Duchess of Kent had plumbed new depths of informality for the Royal Family by chewing gum when she handed out prizes after the women's final. No, it wasn't gum at all. In skittish mode, the Duchess was getting the best out of a flavoured humbug.

Family show

SIX GENERATIONS ON, the Constables are still painting. In Oxford, Sasha Constable, 25, who is the great great grand-daughter of John Constable, has just opened her first solo exhibition at the Loco Gallery.

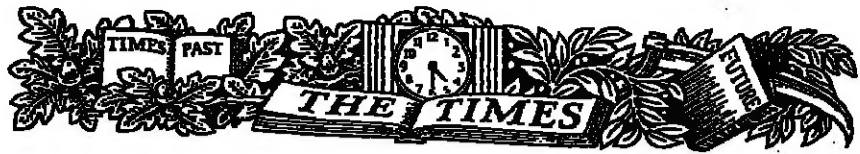
"There's been an artist in every generation since John Constable painted *The Haywain*," she says. "My father's an artist and I'm carrying on the tradition." With a degree in sculpture behind her, she describes her work as surreal, and



Art in the genes: Sasha

forebear would have appreciated her efforts. But she was drawn irresistibly towards the easel because she was brought up with Constable memorabilia. "His drawings, his paint-brushes, easels and palettes," she says. "We've even got his baby-rattle." Don't tell the Getty Museum.

D.L.I.C



THE TORY GAUNTLET

How Clarke could help to win the election

When Kenneth Clarke said yesterday that his chances of delivering significant tax cuts before the general election were "not very good", he was not just engaging in the Treasury's traditional game of deflating Budget expectations. Nor was he throwing away the Government's last hope of winning the general election. The Chancellor was facing up to the realities of responsible financial management. The Treasury's updated forecasts, to be published tomorrow, will show public borrowing far exceeding the targets set in the Budget and revenues falling well short of expectations, even without any tax cuts.

Britain's consumers and businesses seem already to have already helped themselves to a substantial tax cut — by finding ways of avoiding the payment of VAT and corporation tax. The distribution of these unintended tax cuts has certainly not been fair. The more the Government can do to close loopholes in the tax legislation, the more scope there will be for broadly distributed reductions in tax rates that would benefit everybody. But the lost revenues must be recovered before they can be given out.

Against this background, the more doggedly Mr Clarke pursues his plans to control public borrowing and spending, the more he will help the Government's re-election chances and sow confusion in Labour's ranks. Voters are unlikely to be much impressed by the promise of future Tory tax cuts, which many will in any case discount as a pre-election ploy. The threat of higher taxes under Labour would probably be a more effective electoral weapon.

Mr Clarke's best strategy for the Budget — not only in economic, but also in political terms — might not be to cut taxes but to stress the importance of controlling public borrowing. If he could also identify further substantial reductions in government spending, he could then challenge Labour to

endorse his spending cuts or to come out into the open with plans for higher taxes and borrowing. This rigorous approach, which seems to be finding favour among some Tory strategists, would do more to put Labour on the spot than a Dutch auction over taxes which might simply confirm in the eyes of the public — and the financial markets — that they are witnessing a desperate Government in its last throes.

By continuing to chip away at both public borrowing and spending, Mr Clarke would contribute to the growing confidence in the fundamental health of the British economy. "I have this vision that by the end of the century Britain could have the best economy in Western Europe," Mr Clarke said yesterday. To persuade voters to share that vision, rather than to bribe them with tax cuts, must now be the Tories' main political task.

Tax rates will not be the main factor in the voters' assessment of the Tory economic record. Far more important than a penny or two off taxes will be the public's general feeling of economic wellbeing and the sense that, without a change of government, prosperity might turn out to be sustainable for the long term. With the economy regaining momentum, consumer confidence improving and unemployment slowly but surely coming down, the first glimmers of a Tory political recovery are finally appearing in the polls.

With no more than ten months to go before the election, the odds must still be against the Government. There may simply be too little time for the spreading sense of economic wellbeing to make up for the Government's many blunders and to overcome the generalised hostility and boredom among voters. Nevertheless the Government's best chance of staying in power would lie in a well-timed, and well argued, Tory appeal to the innate caution of the British public: "Don't let Labour ruin it."

SANDPAPER AND SILK

Two contrasting approaches to new Labour

Last week Brian Mawhinney unveiled his "new Labour, new danger" theme, and in so doing demonstrated that comedy is not a second career option for him. Now, as Peter Riddell describes on the opposite page, David Willetts has produced an erudite and elegant essay, *Blair's Gurus*, which attacks the philosophical foundations of new Labour. The contrast between the two men and their respective approaches could not be sharper.

Not since Norman Tebbit in his heyday has a politician courted a "hard man" reputation in the manner of Dr Mawhinney. Here is a man who would cross a 14-lane motorway at rush hour to pick a fight. No morning is complete without the digestion of both babies and *Today Programme* presenters. Having caused hell at the Department of Health and terror at the Department of Transport, he now brings his inimitable style to Conservative Central Office.

In many respects the Doctor has already outperformed the fabled Lord Tebbit. Thousands used to testify that in private the Chingford skinhead was a gentle and generous creature; few seem willing to say the same for the Peterborough pugilist. "New Labour, new danger" is an appeal based on unadulterated fear: a victory for Tony Blair at the next election would lead to economic collapse, constitutional catastrophe, an end to civilisation as we know it — and all in the first Queen's Speech. After which the Queen would probably be

abolished as well. As a tactic in the last phase of the campaign this could have been effective. As a central weapon of attack it is blunt and unwieldy, not unlike the manner of the Chairman himself.

David Willetts prefers a somewhat higher plane. The former think-tank supremo is happier with the battle of ideas rather than with rows over advertising schedules and stubbornly low poll numbers. An amiable and intelligent man, resembling a cross between a choir boy and a *Thunderbirds* pilot, he often looks out of place in the Westminster hurly burly. Willetts is the Tories' in-house philosopher. A man who knows his Hayek from his Hegels, and can pronounce profoundly on whether life is really nature, nurture, or Nietzsche. Whenever the Conservatives are trapped in the intellectual trenches, the solution is always the same. Get Willetts to whip up a pamphlet and send it over the parapet. His latest efforts follow a distinguished line, and will not be his last.

The difference between the two styles — sandpaper and silk — is as striking as their place in Mr Major's own armoury. For, in comparison with his chairman, Mr Major is a sensitive soul and not even his best friends would describe him as an aspiring ideological theorist. Politics makes for strange bed fellows. From now until polling day we can be certain to see much more from Dr Mawhinney with his chainsaw and Mr Willetts with his thinking cap.

IN ANOTHER JULY

When brave Germans battled alone against Hitler

In politics, tyrannicide is the ultimate test of moral courage. Pagan and Christian philosophers down the centuries taught that the killing of a ruler could be justified only in the direst extremity. If any tyrant deserved that fate it was Hitler. His regime's evil deeds still shape our world. Hence interest in the German opposition to the Nazis, and especially the bomb plot which so nearly killed him on July 20, 1944, is keener than ever. In Germany, the courts are only now considering a formal pardon for Stauffenberg and other conspirators.

This week, *The Times* carries extracts from Joachim Fest's *Plotting Hitler's Death*, which will be published in the autumn. In the light of his indictment of the British failure to support the July plot, we too may wish to reconsider our wartime record.

In the second part of our series, tomorrow, Fest will argue that British leaders, including Chamberlain, Eden and Churchill, not only ignored overtures from German resistance circles, but were actively hostile. The British treated these brave patriots as dishonourable traitors, even to the point at which "Nazi propagandists and Allied spokesmen joined forces in a *de facto* coalition to belittle the accomplishments of the resistance and disparage its motives".

Fest also blames the Allied refusal to contemplate a negotiated peace. At the end of the First World War, President Wilson had offered moderate Germans a basis for negotiation, and helped to bring about a German political and military collapse. But when in 1943 Churchill and Roosevelt reaffirmed at Casablanca the Allied policy of unconditional surrender, they only isolated the German opposition still further.

Fest dismisses as inadequate the con-

ventional justifications offered by apologists for the British decision to "cold-shoulder" Hitler's opponents: Churchill's exclusive concentration on the war effort, and fear of jeopardising the Soviet alliance. But Fest is probably right to see these reasons as pretexts with which the Government justified a misguided policy, rather than a sufficient rationale.

One cannot divorce British policy, however, from the policymakers' deep-seated suspicion of the German officer class. Ludendorff and Hindenburg had, after all, established the Army's domination of German politics. Some of the opposition bore names like Moltke, Yorck and Bismarck, famous in the annals of Prussian military glory. They were mostly either officers or bureaucrats — servants of the Nazi regime. There was a genuine credibility gap, which British Intelligence manifestly failed to fill.

With hindsight, it would clearly have been wiser to have taken the emissaries of the German opposition seriously, and to have offered them the very limited encouragement they requested. As so often, British leaders were fighting the wrong war. The Nazis were not identical with the Prussian military, though they drew on its mythology; by 1944, the habit of submitting to Hitler had undermined the German army's code of honour. To a Churchill, the moral calculus which led a Stauffenberg to kill Hitler was alien: assassins could not be martyrs.

Many of these rebels were young and aristocratic, but one should not glamorise their sacrifice. Few realised that German nationalism could not survive Hitler's war. But whatever their motives, the men and women of the German resistance helped to redeem their nation and humanity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

RSPCA membership and its attitude towards hunting

From Dr Richard D. Ryder

Sir, Lord Mancroft's letter (July 1) defending the British Field Sports Society's attempt to infiltrate the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals with blood sports enthusiasts is shot through with inconsistency. The objects of the RSPCA are to prevent cruelty and promote kindness. How can blood sports be consistent with these?

What is even more extraordinary is the attitude of the Charity Commissioners in advising the RSPCA that it cannot lawfully keep out such entryists. It is surely quite absurd that a national body of the importance of the RSPCA should be forced to allow itself to be infiltrated by its opponents. What sane business would allow this to happen? If this is indeed the law then clearly the law needs changing.

My motion at the society's recent AGM (report, July 1) was an attempt to address this problem. Another, even stranger, aspect of charity law is that it does not recognise animal welfare as a charitable object. This archaic view is entirely out of touch with modern public opinion and puts animal welfare charities into an impossible position as regards fundraising. For the Charity Commissioners to tell the RSPCA that it cannot campaign for animal welfare (which it has been doing since 1824) is a total nonsense. Again, the law needs changing.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD D. RYDER
(Council Member),
RSPCA
Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex.
July 1.

From Mr Michael Sissons

Sir, It is monstrous that, in one of the world's great charities, a tiny and extreme faction should claim the moral high ground.

I told that at the recent AGM of the RSPCA Dr Richard Ryder, the leading animal rights intellectual in this country, referred to the Charity Commissioners as "bloated bureaucrats" and, predictably, to the law as an ass.

The only possible construction that can be put on this is that he and his supporters are indignant that the commissioners have placed restrictions on animal rights campaigning and activism by the RSPCA.

The only possible construction that can be put on the attempts by the RSPCA to restrict membership of the society to those who agree with them is that they know that on a level playing field their arguments will not prevail.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL SISSONS,
Peters Fraser & Dunlop,
503/4 The Chambers,
Chelsea Harbour, SW10.
July 4.

From Mr Elliot Morley, MP for
Glanford and Scunthorpe (Labour)

Sir, Libby Purves may be impressed by Penn Morimer's Leave Country Sports Alone group ("The cruelty of kindness", July 2), but the Labour Party is more discerning. After considering their leaflets circulated at a Labour conference, delegates voted unanimously for a free vote on the abolition of these activities.

Lord Mancroft says that the British Field Sports Society forms the largest number of dog and horse owners in the country and manages "most of Britain's wildlife and a large proportion of its farm animals". There is not the slightest evidence to support this.

Nor can I fathom his claims that support for a ban on blood sports is falling. Every test of public opinion I am aware of disputes that. Even angles demonstrated in a poll in *Angling Times* that 91 per cent would have nothing to do with the BFSS.

I believe that the effect of BFSS entryism will just boost the RSPCA's membership with those who will now join to show their support for it.

Labour's experience has shown that entryism will always fail when it does not command majority support.

Yours sincerely,
E. A. MORLEY
(Spokesperson for
Animal Welfare),
House of Commons.
July 2.

From the Director General
of the RSPCA

Sir, Last year the RSPCA rescued more than 6,000 animals from dangerous situations. We investigated 110,175 complaints and received more than 1.2 million phone calls.

I cannot think of a clearer way to explain to Libby Purves that the RSPCA

has no more important business than that of preventing cruelty to animals — all animals, including foxes, hares and stags — and that these claims of infiltration by extremists are a myth, perpetuated by the blood sports lobby in an attempt, I believe, to alienate our supporters.

Our most recent poll showed that 73 per cent of people wish hunting with hounds to be outlawed. In 1951, the Scott Henderson report — set up by Parliament to look into cruelty to wild animals — accepted that the RSPCA is "naturally opposed on ethical grounds" to fox-hunting. The Charity Commission recently confirmed that it could find no fault with our methods of campaigning on this issue.

Libby Purves states we have "veggie leaders". She is wrong. I am not a vegetarian, although I understand their views; nor are the newly-elected chairman of our council, retired veterinary surgeon Roy Forster, and his three fellow officers. Nor are the majority of those who work tirelessly for the RSPCA throughout England and Wales.

The work of pro-hunt supporters in maintaining the countryside is also a fallacy, since Britain has suffered such a serious decline in, for example, its traditional hay meadows, lowland heaths, chalk downlands and hedgerows.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DAVIES,
Director General,
RSPCA,
Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex.
July 2.

From the General Manager
of IFAW UK

Sir, The British Field Sports Society's Lord Mancroft quite wrongly in his letter described the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) as a hardline animal rights group to bolster his onslaught on the RSPCA over its stand against blood sports.

IFAW campaigns against animal cruelty legally and peacefully and will continue to do so.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ESPELEY,
General Manager,
IFAW UK,
Warren Court, Park Road,
Crowborough, East Sussex.
July 1.

Access to former military airspace is one of the unexpected benefits of the ending of the Cold War. Precisely at the time when funding is being reduced, an increased proportion of England's landscape is becoming available for aerial survey.

Despite the pressure on funding this year, the current opportunities will certainly not be wasted: flying will be carefully targeted, and expenditure will be kept under close review by the royal commission in the hope that more resources can be found for grants towards this unrivalled source of information about our past.

Yours faithfully,
TOM HASSALL
(Secretary and Chief Executive),
The Royal Commission on the
Historical Monuments of England,
National Monuments Record Centre,
Kemble Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire.
June 28.

The reality of a global warming (although not the cause) is demonstrated by at least three independent sets of temperatures measured at the surface (land, sea surface and night-time marine air).

The cautious statement from IPCC that "the balance of evidence suggests that there is a discernible human influence on global climate" is based on all the available comparisons between climate observations over the past decades (including those from satellites) and simulations by the best climate models.

Dr Barrett advises IPCC to "consider all available data very carefully" before coming to conclusions; this, of course, has been IPCC's *modus operandi* since its inception.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CARSON
(Director),
Hadley Centre for Climate
Prediction and Research,
Meteorological Office,
London Road, Bracknell, Berkshire.
July 2.

Tax on reading

From the Editors of *Tribune*
and *Literary Review*

Sir, We are writing to protest at the plan by WH Smith to levy a "retail display allowance" of 5 per cent on publishers of small publications.

This latest blow to small magazines and newspapers comes on top of the decision taken earlier this year by WH Smith to "de-list" a large number of publications and remove them from its news shelves (letters, February 26 and March 4). The replacement "ordering service" is a very poor substitute.

It is instructive that the proposal to charge a retail display allowance will not extend to WH Smith's top 400 titles. The proposed charge amounts to an unacceptable tax on reading.

WH Smith seems to be no longer interested in providing diversity and choice to its customers and is, in effect, driving a number of specialist maga-

New uses and life for St Ethelburga

From Mr James R. G. Thomas
and Mr Richard P. Griffiths

Sir, As the joint architects of the alternative reconstruction scheme, commissioned by the Friends of St Ethelburga, which has received planning permission and listed building consent from the City planning committee, may we clarify some points arising out of your leading article of June 12 and the letters which you have published since then (June 18, 26).

Our scheme is not for a facsimile reproduction of St Ethelburga's exactly as it was before the IRA bomb. We propose to repair the building, two thirds of which is still standing. The new parts would be clearly distinguishable from the old and continue the development of this, the smallest and one of the oldest churches in the City, in evolutionary fashion.

The building which we envisage will not be confined to church use. We have shown the assessors and the City planning committee how the space could also be used very satisfactorily for concerts, exhibitions, or for talks and meetings.

We do not reject modern architecture. Rather, we seek a self-effacing approach. For the separate office element of the scheme, facing on to the retained and improved garden, we propose to use traditional materials, but forms and proportions which are clearly of the 20th century. For the repair work, some new commissions would be sought — for example for the wrought-iron gateway, stained-glass windows, seating, etc.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES THOMAS,
RICHARD P. GRIFFITHS,
Rothermel Thomas and
Richard Griffiths Architects,
14-16 Cowcross Street, ECI.
July 1.

From Lord Hylton

Sir, I would be happy to contribute to the rebuilding of St Ethelburga's church as a living memorial to countless thousands of people who have lost lives or loved ones, or suffered injury, as a result of political violence and internal or transnational conflict.

A global and ecumenical shrine of this kind should be a place of prayer and of search for forgiveness. It might contain a perpetual flame and become a centre of pilgrimage and worship, particularly for all who commit themselves to peace-building, to the prevention of violent conflict and to a just and merciful stewardship of this unique planet.

Under the patronage of three holy Ethelburgas, who all flourished in the 7th century of the Christian era, such an appeal might touch minds and hearts beyond the confines of the diocese of London and the shores of this country.

Would the great monotheistic religions represented here see this as a worthwhile challenge? Could three saintly women lead us into the paths of worldwide peace?

Yours faithfully,
HYLTON,
House of Lords.
July 1.

Legend debunked

From Mr J. S. K. Milne

Sir, So great a man, not just historian, as Sir Walter Scott should be allowed the last word on interpreting the past to his own and future generations (letters, July 1, 3).

He defined the novel as "a fictitious narrative... accommodated to the ordinary train of events". That seems conclusive enough to me.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. K. MILNE,
88 Campden House, Peel Street, W8.
July 3.

Handsome is...

From Mr Tim Daw

Sir, Sir George Gardiner, MP, has been accused of being ugly (report, June 28; Media and marketing, July 3), but how ugly is he? Beauty can be measured in millilitres (one millilitre being the beauty needed to launch one ship), but what unit is appropriate for ugliness?

I remain, yours, etc,
TIM DAW,
Cannings Cross,
All Cannings, Devises, Wiltshire.
July 3.

TV trivia

From Mr Leslie Thomas

Sir, As one who occasionally appears on television chat shows so disparaged by Mr Harry E. Turner, former Chief Executive, TSW Television (letter, June 27), I would like to suggest that these programmes are known as "chat shows" precisely because they are trivial. Many viewers, who may not enjoy an arts or political discussion, find this trivia enjoyable and Mr Turner should not need reminding that television is for everybody.

I recall going to the Plymouth studio (before Mr Turner's time, I am sure) to take part in a programme called *That's My Dog* during which my basset hound was interviewed.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE THOMAS,
The Walton Canonry,
The Close,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.
June 17.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 6: The Duke of York, Visitor, this afternoon presented the prizes on Speech Day at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk (the Lord Belstead).

KENSINGTON PALACE

July 6: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment), this evening visited Glasgow and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Glasgow (The Right Hon The Lord Provost Pat Lally).

Her Royal Highness took the Salute at the Ceremony of Beating Retreat by the Third (Volunteer) Battalion in George Square, and attended a Reception in the City Chambers.

KENSINGTON PALACE

July 6: The Duke of Gloucester, President, Christie Hospital, Harrogate, this afternoon visited the School and attended a Ceremony of Beating Retreat and subsequently was present at a Dinner to mark the retirement of the Headmaster, Mr Richard Poulton. His Royal Highness was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex (Major General Sir Philip Ward).

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 6: The Duke of Kent, President, the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, this afternoon attended the Wimbledon Championships, Wimbledon, London SW19.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 7: Mr Jeremy Smith (Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex) was present at Gatwick Airport, London, this morning upon the Arrival of the Governor-General of Grenada and Lady Palmer and welcomed their Excellencies on behalf of The Queen.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 7: The Duke of Kent, President, the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, this afternoon attended the Wimbledon Championships, Wimbledon, London SW19.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

Princess Alexandra and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy this afternoon attended the Finals of the All England Lawn Tennis Club Championship Meeting at Wimbledon.

Stephens Independent School, Fawkhams, Kent

Mrs Linda Bramley has been appointed Headmistress from September 1996 to succeed Mrs Jenny Smith-Spark. Mrs Bramley is currently Deputy Head of the School. Mrs Susan Hughes, headmistress, will be acting Head. Children will also be taken up to age 11.

University news

Pembroke College, Oxford
Honorary Fellowship: Sir Harry Pash: Foundation Fellowships: Jonathan Aitken, Ian Cornsack, Emeritus Fellowships: Gordon Whitman, Supernumerary Fellowships: John Tunner.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

DEATHS

DARE - John aged 71, died on July 3rd, 1996, at his home, 10, The Crescent, London SW19. Buried at St. Peter's Church, London SW19. Family and friends are invited to a service at St. Peter's Church, London SW19, on Thursday, July 11th, at 11.00 am. Donations if desired to Cancer Research.

BIRTHS

CORRELL - On July 3rd 1996 to Michelle (nee Flower) and Jonathan their first born child a precious son Benjamin Thomas.

DEATHS

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New varieties bloom at RHS palace show

By Alan Toogood, Horticultural Correspondent

THE growing interest in new and unusual plants is reflected at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hampton Court Palace flower show, where some are to be seen for the first time.

Many nurseries will be introducing new varieties, such as pinks from Three Counties Nurseries, of Marshwood, Dorset; and *Streptocarpus* Something Special, a pink and magenta Cape primrose from Dibleys, of Ruthin, North Wales.

Tree ferns are coming into fashion and the largest range ever offered in Britain will be shown by Rickard's Hardy Ferns, of Tenbury Wells, Hereford and Worcester, including several new ones.

The Plant Heritage marquees, which represent many national plant collections, is another place to see new, rare or unusual plants. They do not come much rarer than *Passiflora laurifolia*, a pink passion flower recently saved



The Book of Kells, the 8th-century transcript of the Bible written by monks on the island of Iona, will be produced on CD-Rom next year by its owner, Trinity College Dublin. The book's illustrations include the figure of Christ, above

Nature notes

YOUNG swallows are on the wing. They are a duller blue than the adults and lack the long-streamers. Though they can fly as nimbly as their parents, for the first few days they sit on wires and rooftops waiting to be fed.

The first signs of south-bound autumn migration are the greenish and green sandpipers which are appearing at the edge of quiet ponds. The greenish sandpipers are tall, silvery waders that step delicately on their long green legs. The green sandpipers are smaller, darker birds with noticeable white rumps. When they fly up with a yodelling cry, they look like large house Martins.

Sheets of pink flame are spreading across the countryside as the rosebay willow-herb comes into flower. Wafts of scent drift down from the white blossoms on the lime trees. Field thistles and knapweed, which is like a spineless thistle, are blossoming. Both plants attract small skipper butterflies, which sit on the flowers with their orange brown forewings standing up like sails on the hindwings. DJM

Harris, civil engineer, 80; Mr Bernard Henderson, chairman, British Waterways, 68; Mr Brian Hines, former Editor, *Sunday Express*, 60; Dame Elaine Kellestew, 62; Dr P.C. Knight, Vice-Chancellor, University of Central England in Birmingham, 49; Major-General R.B. Lousden, former director, Mental Health Foundation, 74; Viscountess Mervyn, 62; Mr David Metcalfe, insurance broker, 69.

Birthdays today

Lord Allen of Abbeydale, 84; Mr John Baumbach, yacht designer, 67; Dr R.S. Barnes, metallurgist, 72; Dr Kate Barclay, former President, Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge, 84; Dr Thomas H. Bewley, former president, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 70; Sir Robert Biggs, former headmaster, BICCO, St. C.D. Brown, headmaster, Norwich School, 52; the Hon Dame Mary Conser, former chairman, WRVS, 69.

Sir Peter Darby, former Chief Inspector of Fire Services, 72; Mrs June Dixon-Millar, founder, National Centre for Cerebral Speech for the Deaf, 60; Mr Keith Fielding, rugby player, 47; Lord Gilmore of Craigmillar, 70; Mr Bruce Gynell, former managing-director, TV-am, 67; Professor Sir Alan

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jean de La Fontaine, poet, Chateau-Tulery, France, 1621; Tom Cribb, prizefighter, Bilton, Gloucestershire, 1781; Fitz-Greene Halleck, poet, Guilford, Connecticut, 1790; Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, airship pioneer, Biedersheim, 1838.

John D. Rockefeller, oil magnate and philanthropist, New York, 1839; Sir Arthur Evans, archaeologist, Nash Mills, Hertfordshire, 1851; Alfred Binet, psychologist, Nice, 1857; Percy Grainger, composer and pianist, Melbourne, 1882; Richard Aldington, novelist and biographer, Portsmouth, 1892.

DEATHS: Christianus Huygens, physicist, The Hague, 1695; Robert South, clergyman, London, 1716; Percy Bysshe Shelley, poet, drowned off Leghorn, 1822; Sir Henry Rankin, painter, Edinburgh, 1823.

Dr William Edward Parry, Arctic explorer, Ems, Germany, 1855; Habiolt K. Browne (Phib), illustrator, Brighton, 1882; Anthony Hope, novelist, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey, 1933; Henry Havelock Ellis, physician and writer, Hinstedham, Suffolk, 1939; Vivien Leigh, actress, London, 1967; Wilfred Rhodes, Yorkshire and Dorset, 1973.

Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama set sail from Lisbon in search of a sea route to India, 1497. The Ziegfeld Follies opened in New York, 1907.

The first all-England women's singles final took place between Christine Truman and Angela Mortimer, Wimbledon, 1961.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr E.C.W. Goodwyn and Miss K.A. Bardsley. The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Charles Goodwyn, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Bardsley, of Walsingham, The Netherlands.

Mr J.H.V. Hathorn and Miss O.J.A. Tisdall. The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr Eric and the Hon Mrs Hathorn, and Olivia, elder daughter of Mr Brian Tisdall and the late Mrs Christina Tisdall and stepdaughter of Mrs Catherine Tisdall.

Mr W.J. Holy-Hasted and Miss A.M. Carratt. The engagement is announced between Ben, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Holy-Hasted, of Northampton, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Linde, of Road Ashton, Wiltshire.

Dr J.N. Morley and Miss J.V. Edwards. The engagement is announced between Nick, son of Mr and Mrs R.E. Morley, of Upton, the Wirral, and Jane, daughter of Mr Peter Edwards, of Hawkesbury Upton, Gloucestershire, and Mrs Jan Willis, of Clifton, Wiltshire.

Mr R.H. White and Miss F.B.G. Brumby. The engagement is announced between Roger, younger son of the late Mr and Mrs R.H. White, and Frances, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Bernard Brumby, of London NW3.

Brambletye

The Governors of Brambletye are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Hugh Cooke as Headmaster of Brambletye, East Grinstead, Sussex in succession to Mr Donald Fowler-Wait who will be retiring at the end of the Summer Term 1997 after 28 years as Headmaster. Mr Cooke is currently Headmaster of Old Buckenham Hall, Bretenham Park, Suffolk.

Dinner

Bedford School Boat Club. The Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire and President of the Old Bedfordian Club presided at a 50th anniversary dinner of Bedford School Boat Club held on Saturday at Henley Royal Regatta to mark the winning of the first Princess Elizabeth Cup Race by Bedford School in 1946.

Latest wills

Mr Sydney Dawson Bailey, of London W2, the writer and pacifist who was the non-governmental Quaker representative at the United Nations from 1954-8, left estate valued at £173,040 net. He left £10,000 each to Quaker Peace and Service, for mediation, and £2,000 to the Quaker Trust and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Mrs Susan Mary Deau, of Grimsby, West Sussex, left estate valued at £625,335 net. She left bequests of effects and £500 to each of her grandchildren and £1,000 to her daughter, Mrs Edward W. Hill, of Midhurst, and £1,000 to the Quaker Trust and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Marriages

Mr G.U. Anani

and Miss E.M. Madecan. The marriage took place on Saturday, June 29, at St John's Episcopal Church, Perth, of Mr Giovanni U. Anani, son of the late Mr Luigi Anani and of Signora Carla Anani Parnell, of Leam, Italy, to Miss Emma Madecan, elder daughter of Sir Lachlan and Lady Macdon, of Arngask, Glenfarg, Perthshire. The Right Rev M.H.G. Henley, Bishop of St Andrews, Dundee and Dunblane, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Isabella McKelvey, Sofia Negri, Alastair Gordon, the Hon Jack Bowes Lyon, Miss Rosie Gordon and Miss Christian Boyle. Mr Charles McKelvey and Mr Edoardo Grandi were best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr J.L. Blackwell

and Miss G. Grant. The marriage took place yesterday in Lonsdale Chapel, Haddington, of Mr Christopher Blackwell, elder son of Professor and Mrs D.E. Blackwell, to Miss Catriona Grant, elder daughter of the late St Francis Grant, of Moray, and of Jean Lady Tweedsmuir. The Rev Charles Robertson officiated.

Sherriff D.W. Bogle and Mrs M.J.L. Leith. The marriage took place on July 1, 1996, in Aberdeen, between David Wilson Bogle, Sheriff of Grampian, Highland and Islands, and Margaret Jean Jones Leith, younger daughter of the late Professor John Leith, of Aberdeen University.

The Hon William Buckley and Miss E.L. Clemenston. The marriage took place on Saturday in the Priory Church of St Mary and St Blaise, Bangor, near Chester, of the Hon William Buckley, only son of Lord and Lady Wrenbury, of Dallington, East Sussex, to Miss Emma Clemenston, only daughter of Mr Peter Clemenston, of West Wittering, and Mrs Anthony Robinson, of South Clifton, Nottinghamshire. Canon J.M. Haselock officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs James Fairbairn, Gemma Robson, Sophie Robson, Ellie Barnard, Rupert Crookenden and Emma Crookenden. Mr Mark Read was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr A.S.J. Woodward and Miss S.A. Veasey. The marriage took place on Saturday, at the Church of St Peter, Chichester, Sussex, of Mr Andrew Woodward, son of Mr and Mrs John Woodward, of High House, Scopwick, Lincolnshire, and Miss Serena Veasey, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Veasey, of Cinder Farm, North Chalfont, Sussex. The Rev Christopher Abbott officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs James Fairbairn, Gemma Robson, Sophie Robson, Ellie Barnard, Rupert Crookenden and Emma Crookenden. Mr Mark Read was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr G.D.P. Haig and Miss P.K. Martin. The marriage took place on Saturday, July 6, at St. Aldeg's Parish Church, Greenwich, of Mr Giles Haig, of East Sussex and Wardsworth, to Miss Philippa Martin, of Blackheath.

The bride was attended by her sisters, Emma, Alexandra and Lucinda. Mr Justin Haig was best man.

A reception was held at Ranges House, Blackheath.

Mr G.A.V. Kaiser-Davies and Miss J. Langdon. The marriage took place on Saturday, July 6, at Sacred Heart Church, Wimbledon, of Guy, elder son of Mr and Mrs Clive Kaiser-Davies, of Merseyside, to Joanne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Ronald Langdon, of New Malden.

A reception was held at the Ladbroke Club, Teddington, and the honeymoon will be spent in the Caribbean.

Mr R.T. Lee and the Hon Juliet A.C. Harvey. The marriage took place on Saturday, at St. Mylor's, Mylor Church, Cornwall, of Mr Richard Lee, son of Professor and Mrs T.A. Lee, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, to the Hon Juliet Harvey, elder daughter of Lord Har-

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Marshal, Royal Air Force, will visit RAF Cosford, at 11.00; as Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Sports Medicine, will present the Prince Philip Medal in Sports Medicine, and attend a dinner at St James's Palace at 6.25.

The Princess Royal will open a new building for the Institute of Engineering, Surveying and Space Geodesy, Nottingham University, at 11.25; will open the new Mansel House, at 12.30; will attend Portland College Awards Day, 1996, Nottingham Road, Mansel, Nottinghamshire, at 2.10; and as Patron, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, will attend a race meeting and fundraising dinner, Windsor Racecourse, at 7.20.

The Duchess of Kent will attend a reception and a short rally for children from the Laski School for the Blind, Poland, at the Polish Embassy at 6.30.

Princess Alexandra, Chancellor, will preside at ceremonies for the conferment of degrees and honorary degrees at Lancaster University at 2.20.

Today's events

The Queen's Guard mounts at Horse Guards at 11.00. The Queen's Guard mounts at Buckingham Palace at 11.30.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 1982

DEATHS

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DOMESTIC & CATERING

SITUATIONS
LADIES: 0171 481 1982
GENTS: 0171 481 1982

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

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TICKETS FOR SALE

OBITUARIES

RAY HOWARD-JONES



Ray Howard-Jones, artist, died in London on June 25 aged 93. She was born in Lambourn, Berkshire, on May 30, 1903.

WHETHER sitting sketching amid clouds of seabirds on a Welsh island or entertaining in the garden of her west London home, Ray Howard-Jones impressed all who met her with her tenacity of spirit. In weather which would have most visitors to her haunts on the Pembrokeshire coast muffling up, she would peel off her clothes and plunge naked into the Atlantic swells, careless of passing visitors to the spot. At times she seemed like some tutelary spirit of the Welsh shore, so at home was she with its seals, seafoam and large (but harmless) basking sharks.

Her creative life had been a long one, beginning at the Slade in the 1920s and taking her through a period as a war artist — one of the few women to make a mark in that sphere — to a series of exhibitions from the 1950s onwards. Her career had its ebbs and flows, and she had for a period of twenty years from 1970 known neglect (though not in Wales). But in the very last few years all this had changed, with an exhibition of her work organised by Rocket Contemporary Art in Cork Street, London, in 1994 and a touring exhibition of her later seascapes in the following year. A second London exhibition, *The Two Rays*, at the Rocket Gallery in 1994 celebrated her association with the photographer Raymond Moore, with whom she shared a close relationship for twenty years in the 1950s and 1960s.

She was born Rosemary Howard-Jones at her father's racing stables on the Berkshire Downs, but at the age of two moved to her grandfather's house in Penarth, where she was looked after by two guardians. Her first sketches were of the shores of the Bristol Channel, the landscapes of the Vale of Glamorgan and, later, of Tenby where she was taken on a visit at the age of 12 and fell in love with the majestic coastline of West Wales.

In 1920 she entered the Slade School of Art, where she came to the notice of Philip Wilson Steer, who became a firm admirer of her gifts as a colourist. Henry Tonks, the Slade Professor, was



Gateholm from my Cliff, gouache and pastel, 1980s

seldom in a mood to be indulgent to her, but as she realised, there was a compliment implicit in his acerbity. He recognised that she was a serious artist and not simply a little rich girl treating the Slade as a finishing school. In 1923 she gained her London University Fine Art Diploma and her oil painting *Christ on the Road to Calvary* won the Summer Composition prize.

In 1925 she returned to Penarth to care for her guardian May Purnell, who had in her turn been looking after the painter's mother. While doing this she also worked for a number of years making archaeological reconstruction drawings for the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff. Her evenings were devoted to voluntary work with deprived children and their unemployed parents in the city's grim Spilt area, which in those days lay in the shadow of the East Moors steelworks, whose emissions polluted its streets.

When war came in 1939 she pleaded with the authorities — at first unsuccessfully — to become a war artist. But eventually she was commissioned to paint for the record the fortified islands of Flat Holm and Steep Holm in the Bristol Channel. She wanted to go to Normandy to record the D-Day landings but this request was turned down. However, she was allowed to sketch the preparation of transports for the invasion in Cardiff Docks. Some of her wartime work is now held by the Imperial War Museum.

After the war she settled in London at Ravenscourt Park, where she had a house and studio in which she spent her winters, alternating them with

summers spent at St Martin's Haven, Dyfed. In 1948 she was introduced to the photographer Raymond Moore. This meeting was to mould the next twenty years of her life. In 1949 with Moore she went to the island of Skomer off the Pembrokeshire coast where they spent a summer painting. It was to be the first of several such summers for the pair until 1958 when Skomer was sold to the Nature Conservancy. This did not end the link with West Wales, however, since in 1960 Howard-Jones took a cottage at St Martin's Haven on the coast opposite. Meanwhile the painter and the photographer — the "other Ray" — had become a familiar sight on the London art scene.

The Welsh coast, its physical grandeur, its mythology and its mystical atmosphere, released something in Howard-Jones's imagination, which had first been stimulated by it as a child. She was to return to it as a subject again and again to the very end of her life. In 1958 she was commissioned to create a large mosaic for the front of Thomson House, the Cardiff headquarters of the *Western Mail* and *South Wales Echo* and in the following year she had her first exhibition at the Leicester Galleries, London, the first of five shows over the next ten years.

In 1970 the relationship with Ray Moore broke up but Howard-Jones continued to return to St Martin's Haven every summer, steeping herself ever more deeply in the atmosphere of the coast and the offshore islands. For her this meant not only the short excursion to nearby Skomer and

Skokholm but also visits to distant Grassholm, to which she would occasionally be able to gain access, and to the amazement of friends who accompanied her, sit impassively sketching amid the deafening clamour (not to mention the stench of guano) emanating from its 50,000 nesting gannets.

Her absorption in Wales led to her gradually withdrawing from the London art scene as the 1970s wore on. But, though this led to a tendency to think of her as a merely regional artist, this was not an accurate assessment, as can be seen from the work of her late flowering. Wales at least continued to notice her, with both the Welsh Arts Council and West Wales Arts mounting touring retrospective exhibitions in 1974 and 1983.

Eventually, after she had spent the winter of 1992-93 reassessing unexhibited work which had gathered in her London studio, the Rocket Contemporary Art exhibition and the publication of her poems *Heart of the Rock*, also in 1993, reminded the wider world of her qualities.

Until her late eighties Ray Howard-Jones continued to scramble up and down the cliffs from her West Wales studio to the beach at St Martin's Haven beneath. The essence of her art was that it was created in the open air, as the outpouring of seascapes attests. At her London home her contact with nature was just as close, and she was never happier than when in her wild garden watching and feeding the birds.

She never married and had no children.

HUGH POPHAM

Hugh Popham, Fleet Air Arm pilot and poet, died on June 30 aged 76. He was born on May 15, 1920.



A FLEET AIR ARM pilot, who was also a poet, Hugh Popham wrote verses which surveyed the maritime battlefield below him with crystalline detachment. His single poem in the *Oxford Book of 20th Century English Verse*, edited by Philip Larkin, is not, in the easy colloquialism of its phrasing, characteristic of his output in general, which recalls the verse of an earlier war. It limpidly describes the "exquisite boredom" of patrols at 20,000 feet: ships reduced to mere water beetles on the surface of the sea beneath; then the sudden jolt as enemy aircraft break into this stratospheric idyll and it is time for "the dulled drumming of wing cannon" and the presence of violent death.

As a poet, Popham wrote normally in the Georgian mode of Housman and James Elroy Flecker. But his war experiences provoked a different response in his sensibility. His poems of the perils of air combat and the desire of the airman to regain the pitching flight deck of his mother aircraft carrier after the "ruled tracer lines" and the "smoke flowering from the engines" are in the laconic style of Larkin himself. They are not philosophical in the manner of Yeats's *An Irish Airman Foresees His Death*. Rather, they capture the immediacy of technical detail: the scream of tormented engines revving frantically in the thin air of high altitude; the burst of high explosive; smoke trails from broken aircraft threading their way seawards, down through thousands of feet of sky.

Born at Beer, in Devon, Hugh Henry Home Popham was educated at Repton and Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. But in 1940 he had to break off from his law degree course there, joining the Fleet Air Arm. Soon, as a member of a Sea Hurricane Squadron, he flew combat air patrols from the aircraft carrier *Indomitable* over Operation Pedestal, the great relief convoy to Malta which battled

through air and U-boat opposition in August 1942. In the hazardous conditions of air operations in those days he had several brushes with death, finally breaking his back when colliding with another aircraft when his squadron was forming up in bad visibility. But he returned to action after a few months in plaster and participated in the Fleet Air Arm's activities off Italy in 1943.

He published his first volume of poems, *Against the Lightning*, in 1944, while still serving with the Fleet Air Arm. The volume took its title from the long poem from an aircraft carrier which occupied most of the collection. It was received with enthusiasm as the outpouring of a sensitive and humane mind, and his publishers, Bodley Head, awarded him its £150 literary prize, no small sum in those days. In the meantime he continued his active service career as a deck landing control officer in aircraft carriers on Russian convoys.

After the war, Popham had various jobs, including teaching in Barbados. Returning to Britain after several years, he resumed a literary career and produced a range of books on many and disparate subjects. There were novels such as

Beyond the Eagle's Rage (1951); a memoir *Sea Flight* (1954); and *Cape of Storms* (1957), a graphic description of Arctic trawling.

The sea and the life lived on it remained a constant preoccupation. Popham sailed his sloop in the Solent, made models of square-rigged ships, wrote a history of the Fleet Air Arm, *Into Wind* (1969), and edited the sailing journals of that consummate novelist of the sea, E. V. Rieu.

Somewhat strangely, one of his most intriguing books was *F.A.N.Y. The Story of the Women's Transport Service 1907-84*, which was published in 1985. This was a lucid and perceptive account of that unique women's corps, founded almost by accident by a cavalryman in 1907, whose members have rendered distinguished service in a variety of capacities, ranging from driving ambulances in the First World War to being secret agents in the Second.

A *Damned Cunning Fellow*, a biography of his ancestor, Rear-Admiral Sir Home Popham, was published by his own publishing house, The Old Ferry Press, in 1991.

He is survived by his fourth wife Mary and by a son and daughter of a previous marriage.

T. F. WEST

Trustham Frederick West, research chemist and author, died on June 21 aged 85. He was born on April 19, 1911.

FREDDIE WEST was a research chemist who earned particular recognition among his profession during the Second World War, when Allied troops in the Far East were being devastated by malaria. He was taken, blindfold, to wartime airfields and flown secretly to bases abroad. Once there, West advised the Army on the best way to apply insecticide to the affected area. This was twenty years before Rachel Carson published her opinion-changing *Silent Spring*, and West was of that generation which saw DDT as the answer to all mosquito-borne diseases.

Born in Hertfordshire, the son of a butcher and poultry farmer, West was educated on a scholarship at Hertford Grammar School and took an external degree in chemistry at Sir John Cass College, University of London. During the day he worked for a pharmaceutical company, and studied by night. In 1934 he gained a first, and his master's degree in inorganic chemistry.

Subsequently, he carried out research on the detailed chemical structures of pyrethrins I and II, the insecticides extracted from the pyrethrum flowers, or African chrysanthemums. During the Second World War supplies of pyrethrum were scarce, particularly after Japan had joined hostilities. The Insecticides Research and Development Panel

was established to find substitutes for pyrethrum to protect troops against malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

The panel sought advice from West, then serving with commissioned rank in the London Home Guard. He was seconded for special duties to the Office of the Scientific Adviser, Ministry of Production. In 1942 he was sent to the Far East and then to India in 1943 in response to a request from the High Command in



India for an expert to instruct them on the use of DDT and pyrethrum mixtures.

He actually contracted malaria himself that year and was found unconscious in a lavatory in Delhi. The disease recurred for some years afterwards but, ironically, that initial attack saved his life. Had he not been immobilised, he would have been a passenger on the doomed flight he intended to catch, the one on which the actor Leslie Howard

died (West's name was not removed from the passenger list, with the result that his wife was informed that her husband was dead, only to find him, later, on her doorstep).

In 1946 he gained the degree of Doctor of Science from the University of London. After the war he travelled to Canada, where he lectured at the University of Toronto, and to Sydney, as director of research for a chemical company. From his headquarters in London, he directed the European operations for the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya. In 1960 he became editor of *Chemistry and Industry*. The editorials were noted as "models of best scientific writing". In 1976 he moved on to the Royal Society of Health, as editor of its *Journal* and, at the same time, to an honorary research fellowship at University College London. He retired in 1990.

West set questions in chemistry for the television programme *Mastermind*. He was co-author of several books on DDT and the chemical control of insects. Before global warming became a fashionable subject, he co-edited monographs on the British chemical industry, and, in 1980, on *Chlorofluorocarbons in the Environment: The Aerosol Controversy*. He also patented many new processes and devices (some invented in his garden shed). These included a wood preservative, an antidote for spider bites, and a UV filter for Antarctic expeditions.

His wife died in March. He is survived by their daughter.

MAJOR-GENERAL GEOFFREY ARMITAGE

Major-General Geoffrey Armitage, CBE, GOC Northumbrian District, 1970-72 died on June 23 aged 78. He was born on July 5, 1917.

GEOFFREY ARMITAGE was one of the few army officers, who managed successfully not only to transfer between Artillery and Armour halfway through his career, but also to become the professional head of his adopted arm as Director of the Royal Armoured Corps at an important juncture in the history of tank development.

Brought up in Ireland, he was educated at Haileybury and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, where he won the Sword of Honour and was commissioned into the Royal Artillery in 1937. The Gunner half of his military career started in the 14th Anti-tank Regiment, RA, which went as part of the 4th Division with the British Expeditionary Force to France in 1939.

Surviving the retreat to Dunkirk, he stayed with the 4th Division which was deployed on anti-invasion defences in southern Hampshire. He became adjutant of his regiment in September 1940 and a battery commander a year later. In March 1943

the 4th Division sailed for North Africa, where his battery took part in the final battles for Tunisia.

After the Axis forces had capitulated in May, he went to the Staff College at Haifa, and thereafter served with 7th Armoured Division, first as the brigade major of 2nd Armoured Brigade at Salerno; then as a divisional GSO2 in Normandy; and finally as a Royal Horse Artillery battery commander for the rest of the war in Europe. He was mentioned in dispatches and appointed MBE (military) in 1945.

It was during the crossing of the Rhine and the subsequent advance to the Baltic that his battery was supporting 8th Hussars' armoured regimental group commanded by Desmond (later General Sir Desmond) Fitzpatrick.

In 1946, he spent a year in the Mediterranean in the aircraft carrier *HMS Ocean* as an Army/Air Liaison Officer, which he greatly enjoyed. He was then specially selected as a former Sword of Honour winner to be one of the first of the Royal Artillery's representative instructors at the new Royal Military Academy Sandhurst — the amalgamation of the prewar Sandhurst and Woolwich. Desmond Fitzpatrick was asked by his



regiment, The Royal Dragoons (1st Dragoons), to find some potential commanding officers from other arms who were willing to transfer. Much to the Gunners' fury, Armitage decided to accept the Royals' invitation to join them in 1951.

His transfer in mid-career could have been risky had it not been for his personal abilities and his experience in armoured warfare gained during his two years with 7th Armoured Division. He was gifted in sporting activities that would appeal to a cavalry regiment. He had won the army pentathlon; excelled as a polo player; was a successful

breeder and trainer of gun-dogs; and had a lifelong interest in all country pursuits. At that time, he was re-establishing the Staff College and Sandhurst pack of drag hounds.

Within four years of transferring he had become a highly respected regimental commander of The Royal Dragoons. He went on to be an instructor at the Imperial Defence College, 1959-60 and a colonel, General Staff, in the War Office, 1960-62. Such was the confidence that he had inspired in Royal Armoured Corps circles that he was appointed Commandant of the British tank Mecca, the Royal Armoured Corps Centre at Bovington, 1962-65.

His artillery and tank experience, coupled with his ability as a Staff Officer, made him a natural choice as Chief of Staff to 1st (British) Corps in Germany in 1966. It was not an easy time to hold such a responsible job; Denis Healey's rolling defence reviews were in full swing, and the 1966 sterling crisis made it imperative to fight back to defend 1st Corps from Treasury-driven cuts in its capabilities. To his relief, having been promoted major-general and appointed CBE in 1968, he returned to England to take

over as Director Royal Armoured Corps.

It was a case of out of the frying pan into the fire. The new Challenger tank was just being brought into service. Regrettably, the gross unreliability of its 160 engine, which was no fault of his, marred his tenure as Director, by causing constant changes in the re-equipment programmes of the armoured regiments. On the positive side, however, the promising development of the world-beating Chobham armour for defeating anti-tank missiles was coming to fruition at that time.

His last job in the Army was as Commander of Northumbrian District at Catterick, 1970-72, at the time of the first miners' strike against the Heath Government. The Army found itself involved in giving the police support, when and where needed to handle demonstrations, in the North East.

On his retirement in 1973, he gave much of his time to the Country Landowners' Association, running its Gamefair from 1973 to 1979.

In 1949 he married a widow, Monica Wall Kent. They had one son and she had a daughter by her first marriage. All survive him.

Church news

Appointments
Canon John Edge, Curate, Briercliffe, Burnley (Blackburn); to be Resident Minister, West Felton (Lichfield).
The Rev Debbie Flach, Assistant Curate, Chantilly, France; to be Assistant Curate, Holy Trinity, Maison-Lafitte, France (Europe).
The Rev Jeremy Fletcher, Priest-in-charge, St Andrew's, Skegby, and All Saints, Chapel of Ease, Stanton Hill; to be also Priest-in-charge, Teveral St Katherine (Southwell).
The Rev Kathleen (Kay) Garlick, Assistant Curate (NSM), St Mary and St Thomas a Becket, Much Birch, St Mary, Little Birch, St David, Much Dewchurch, Christ Church, Llanwrme.
Quintabus, Llandinbo (Hereford); to be also Chaplain to the Sixth Form College, Hereford.
The Rev Laura Gibson, Team Vicar, Birchen Copple, Kidderminster West Team Ministry; to be Priest-in-charge, Mabley w Bayton, Rock w Heighington w Far Forest (Worcester).
The Rev Timothy Gill, Assistant Curate, North Hull, St Michael

and All Angels; to be Priest-in-charge, Sealeotes, St Paul w Christ Church and St Silas, and Priest-in-charge, Sealeotes, St Mary (York).
The Rev Frances Hancock, Adviser on Women in Ministry, and Curate (NSM), St Peter, Peterchurch; St Bartholomew, Vowchurch; St Mary Magdalen, Turnstone; and St Faith, Dorstone (Hereford); to be also a Prebend of Hereford Cathedral.
The Rev Michael Hart, Rector, St Mary, Newington; to be Priest-in-charge, and Team Rector-designate, St Mary, Caterham and St Peter and St Paul, Chaldon (Southwark).
The Rev John Higgins, Rector, Arthure; to be Social Responsibility Officer for the diocese of Carlisle and Assistant Priest, Brampton, Castle Carrack, Brunnew and Farlam, same diocese.
The Rev David Humphries, Vicar, St Thomas, Greetland and Vicar, St Philip, Cutham; to be

Vale (Wakefield); to be Vicar, Shawbury w Morton Corbet and Stanton upon Hine Heath (Lichfield).
The Rev Peter Ingrams, Vicar, St Mary Magdalen, Sheel; to be Vicar, St John the Baptist, Locks Heath (Portsmouth).
The Rev Peter Jaram, Assistant Curate, Bridlington Priory; to be Assistant Curate, Rufforth w Moor Monkton and Hessey, and Heslough w Wighill, Billbrough and Ashham Richard (York).
The Rev Timothy Jones, Assistant Curate, Middlesbrough; St Martin; to be Curate, with special responsibility for the Roundabouts and Welbury, and part-time Chaplain to HM Remand Centre, Northallerton (York).
The Rev Derek Little, Vicar, St Stephen, Canonbury (London); to be Rector, St Thomas and St Nicholas Mission Church, Bedhampton (Portsmouth).
The Rev Canon Terry Louden, Vicar, St Philip, Cutham; to be

Vicar, All Saints', East Moon, and St John the Evangelist, Langrish and Director of Continuing Ministerial Education (Portsmouth).
The Rev Julian McCready, Rector, Clonsall and Warrenton (Down and Down); to be Chaplain to Liverpool College.
The Rev Timothy Marks, Rector, Elsieley w Croxson, Graveley w Velling and Toseford (Ely); to be Director of Network Counselling and Training, same diocese.
The Rev David North, Rector, Whitlington, Oswestry; to be also Priest-in-charge, West Felton (Lichfield).
The Rev Canon Stephen Oliver, Archdeacon to the Archbishop of Capetown (Province of South Africa); to be Lecturer/Precursor, Newland Almshouses, Coleford (Gloucester).
The Rev Marion Palmer, Curate, St Mary Magdalen, Gillingham; to be Curate, Farnborough (Rochester).
The Rev David Pickett, Vicar, Old Basing and Rural Dean of Basingstoke (Winchester); to be also an Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral.

SERAJEVO AND AFTER

A number of arrests are reported to have been made in connection with the Serajevo crime, and the lodgings of Serb students at the Universities of Prague and Graz have been searched. Authentic accounts of the crime, given by persons who were actually present with the Archduke, give the tragedy more and more an aspect of fatality. There is little doubt that before his departure for Bosnia the Archduke was conscious that he was undertaking a dangerous journey. When during the railway journey the grease boxes of the carriage became heated he remarked, "Now it's beginning, and down there they will throw bombs at us." But the actual assassination was rendered easy by the most extraordinary combination of circumstances. The Duchess had been slightly grazed in the neck by a splinter from the first bomb, but she maintained her coolness and begged her husband to be allowed to continue to accompany him after he left the town hall. After the

ON THIS DAY

July 8, 1914

Details of the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand appeared on the same page as an account of the visit by the British fleet to the German fleet at Kiel. Within a month the two countries were at war.

reception at the Rathaus, the Archduke expressed his intention of visiting the Merizzi Hospital, and fell in with the suggestion that he should drive thither along the Appel Quay. Nobody would be expecting him to travel along this road, which is broad and straight, and along which, in consequence, he could drive very fast, and so diminish the possibility of a successful attempt. The mistake made by the Mayor's car in turning into a side street brought the Archduke's car to a standstill at a spot within a few

yards of where Prinzp was standing. Finally, the slightest divergence of the bullets would have rendered the wounds not necessarily fatal.

KIEL AND AFTER

The British naval visit to Kiel, although its festivities were dimmed by the tragedy of Serajevo, was a great success and gave fine proof of naval comradeship the world over and of German hospitality. The reception was warm and sincere. It is not an empty convention that exalts Emperors and Kings to the highest rank in the armies and navies with which they compete and with which they sometimes come to blows. It is rather a symbol of brotherhood in arms — exhibited at Kiel alike when the Emperor William hoisted the flag of a British Admiral in the *King George V*, when Sir George Warrender and the President of the German Navy League exchanged enthusiastic speeches in Kiel Town Hall, and when the German and British bluejackets made merry ashore.

